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TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD

Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1935

No. 709

PAUL V. McNUTT, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF INDIANA, ET AL., APPELLANTS,

vs.

GENERAL MOTORS ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION OF INDIANA, INC.

APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

FILED JANUARY 21, 1936.

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[fol. 1] [Caption omitted]

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IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

In Equity. No. 1686

GENERAL MOTORS ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION OF INDIANA, INCORPORATED, Complainant,

against

PAUL V. MCNUTT, Governor of the State of Indiana; PHILIP LUTZ, Attorney General of Indiana; Richard A. McKinley, Director of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana; Oscar P. Welborn, Harvey B. Hartsock, C. M. Setser, Myron Gray and Robert Batton, Members of the Commission for Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana; Herbert M. Spencer, Prosecuting Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of The State of Indiana, Defendants

For Temporary & Permanent Injunction

[fol. 3] BILL OF COMPLAINT—Filed June 22, 1935

General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc. (hereinafter designated as "G. M. A. C."), a corporation, brings this its Bill of Complaint against the above named defendants and respectfully shows unto this Honorable Court as follows:

First. G. M. A. C. is a corporation duly organized and existing under the General Corporation Act of the State of Indiana, with the power under its charter to buy contract obligations, is a citizen and resident of the State of Indiana and has its principal place of business in that State in the City of Indianapolis, County of Marion.

The defendant Paul V. McNutt is the duly elected, qualified and acting Governor of the State of Indiana and is a resident of the City of Indianapolis in the Southern District of said State.

The defendant Philip C. Lutz is the duly elected, qualified and acting Attorney General of the State of Indiana, and is a resident of the City of Boonville in the Southern District thereof.

The defendant Richard A. McKinley is the duly appointed Director of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana, and is a resident of the City of Jeffersonville in the Southern District thereof.

The defendants Oscar P. Welborn, Harvey B. Hartsock, C. M. Setser, Myron Gray and Robert Batton are the duly appointed members of the Commission for Financial Institutions of said State, the said Welborn and Hartsock residing at Indianapolis in the Southern District thereof, the said Setser residing at Columbus in the Southern District thereof, the said Gray and Batton residing respectively at Muncie and Marion in the Northern District thereof.

The defendant Herbert M. Spencer is the duly elected, qualified and acting Prosecuting Attorney of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana, wherein Complainant's principal place of business is situate, and resides at Indianapolis in the Southern District of Indiana.

Second. This is a suit of a civil nature arising under the Constitution and Laws of the United States. The matter in controversy exceeds the sum of Three Thousand ($3,000.00) Dollars in value, exclusive of interest and costs.

Third. G. M. A. C. is now, and for a number of years last past has been, engaged in the business of purchasing retail instalment sales contracts covering products manufactured by General Motors Corporation or its divisions and sold by dealers. Most of these retail instalment sales contracts involve purchases where the cash price would be less than $1500.00 and in all of them G. M. A. C. obtains by purchase and assignment thereof a security interest in the goods sold.

[fol. 4] Fourth. Under arrangements with Retail Sellers, G. M. A. C. has for many years purchased and desires to continue to purchase retail instalment contracts at such prices and on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be agreed upon by G. M. A. C. and Retail Sellers. The business relationship presently existing between G. M. A. C. and a large number of Retail Sellers engaged in the business of selling at retail new and used automo-

biles and other General Motors products in the State of Indiana is mutually of great business advantage and value.

Fifth. By approval of the Governor of the State of Indiana on March 11, 1935, Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1935, theretofore enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, became a law. This law is entitled "An Act to license and regulate and to promote competition in the business of purchasing contracts arising out of retail instalment sales, to prescribe the form of such contracts, to empower the Department of Financial Institutions to classify retail instalment sales and contracts arising therefrom and to fix and prescribe maximum charges for the extension of credit in retail instalment sales"—and becomes effective, by its terms, from and after the 1st day of July, 1935. A copy of said Act is attached hereto, marked "Exhibit A", and made a part hereof.

Sixth. Complainant is advised by its counsel and, therefore, avers that said Act is unconstitutional and void in that its enforcement would deprive complainant of its property without due process of law and deny to it the equal protection of the laws, in violation of Section 1 of Article XIV of the Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, by illegally delegating to the Department *for* Financial Institutions legislative powers in violation of Section 1 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Indiana, and by arbitrarily, unreasonably, and unjustifiably regulating and controlling the business and affairs of the complainant and fixing the terms and price at which and the manner in which Retail Sellers may sell and conduct their sale of automobiles and other General Motors products at time prices payable in instalments and the manner, terms and price in and at which Retail Sellers may sell and G. M. A. C. may purchase the instalment sale contracts arising from such sales.

Seventh. The sections of the Act particularly complained of are the following:

(a) Sections 6, 26 and 10, and Sections 7 and 8 which provide as follows:

(1) Sections 6, 26 and 10 provide that the Department of Financial Institutions is directed, upon investigation and by general order, to classify retail instalment sales or con-

tracts arising therefrom, to determine and fix the "fair maximum finance charge" that may be contracted for in any retail instalment contracts, from time to time to re-[fol. 5] classify such sales and contracts and redetermine and refix the maximum "finance charge", and to determine and fix the "fair maximum charges" which may be contracted for in any retail instalment contract for failure on the part of the buyer to pay any instalment of the time balance when it is due; that every retail buyer under an instalment sale contract may at any time prepay the then unpaid time balance owed on any retail instalment contract and thereupon become entitled to a reduction of the balance due in an amount to be fixed by said Department; that retail sellers shall not receive any benefit from or part of any amount collected or received from any retail buyer as a finance charge, and that no person engaged in the business of purchasing retail instalment sales contracts shall contract to pay or pay to retail seller any part of the amount collected as a finance charge, in excess of the maximum amount to be fixed by the Department of Financial Institutions, which amount is to be fixed without regard to any differentiation as to whether the retail instalment contract is sold with recourse on retail sellers or without recourse or under an agreement by which retail sellers agreed to repurchase the goods if the buyer defaults and such goods are repossessed.

(2) Sections 7 and 8 provide that if retail sellers contract for or receive from any retail buyer any amount whatsoever, for examination, service, brokerage, commission, expense, fee or other thing of value in excess of or in addition to the amount of the finance charge, charges, fees and taxes permitted by the Act, the indebtedness evidenced by the instalment contract and the security interest created thereby shall be enforceable against the retail buyer only to the extent of the principal balance unpaid thereon; and that even such "fees" as may be lawful may not be included in the principal balance fixed in the retail instalment contract.

(b) Sections 9, 11, 12, 13 and 15, which provide that retail sellers may sell their retail instalment contracts only to persons licensed under the Act; that no person may engage in the business of purchasing such contracts from retail sellers unless such person files an application, pays a

fee of one hundred dollars and receives a license from the Department of Financial Institutions; that the Department of Financial Institutions is authorized to reject any application for a license if it finds that the applicant cannot "operate its business economically and efficiently" and to revoke or suspend any license if it finds that the lecensee has "wilfully avoided or attempted to avoid the operation or effect of this Act" by purchasing any retail instalment contract or contracts "at a less price than the unpaid balance thereon";

[fol. 6] (c) Sections 18, 19, 20, 25, 27 and 29, which provide that annual reports be filed under oath by licensees giving such information as may be required by the Department concerning the business and operation of the licensee; that the Department may at any time investigate the books, accounts, records and files of licensees, and the business of any person, not a licensee, who is doing any business, the doing of which is prohibited by the Act to persons other than licensees or banks or trust companies; that fees shall be paid by licensees to cover the expenses of the Department, including those incurred in fixing the maximum finance charge; that the Department may make from time to time rules and regulations governing the business done in the State by licensees; and that, upon conviction for violation of any of the provisions of the Act or of the rules or regulations promulgated by the Department, the penalty shall be a fine of not more than $1,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

(d) Sections 1, 2 and 4 which provide that the operation of the Act shall be limited exclusively to those instalment sales where the cash price, as defined in the Act, would be $1500. or less and a security interest in the goods is retained; that the Act shall not apply to instalment sales where such cash price would be $1500. or less, but where no security interest is retained; that the Act shall not apply to instalment sales where the price is payable at a future date in but one instalment, or to instalment sales of articles in bulk where such cash price would, in total, exceed $1500, even though, if such articles were sold individually, the individual instalment sales would be subject to the provisions of the Act; that the use of forms of instalment sale contracts presently in use be discontinued, and that new contract forms drawn up in the manner and containing the

specific items provided for in the Act be used after its effective date.

Eighth. Complainants are advised and, therefore, aver that each of the defendants, in their respective capacities herein above designated, claims he is vested with the power and charged with the duty of enforcing said Act; that the Department of Financial Institutions is about to cause to be published orders respecting classes of retail instalment sales or contracts, maximum "finance charges," maximum charges which may be contracted for in retail instalment contracts for failure on the part of retail buyers to pay any instalment of the time balance when it is due, the amount of the reduction to which retail buyers are to be entitled upon prepayment of the unpaid time balance and the maximum amount, collected or received as a "finance charge" from any retail buyer, which may be paid by licensees to and received by retail seller; and that defendants now publicly declare that the said act is a valid law appli- [fol. 7] cable to the business of G.M.A.C. and publicly threaten and declare that they will enforce the same in all of its provisions.

Ninth. The present net worth of Complainant's business is in excess of $50,000.00. In the conduct of its business Complainant, G. M. A. C., maintains offices in the cities of Indianapolis, Fort Wayne and South Bend. The aggregate yearly rent for such offices amounts to $13,147.00. It employs on the average, approximately 85 employees, whose aggregate salaries amount to approximately $150,000.00 yearly. In the calendar year 1934 it purchased retail instalment contracts in the State of Indiana aggregating in excess of $7,000,000.00, and its estimated volume of such purchases for the first six months of 1935 is in excess of $4,000,000.00. During the calendar year 1934 G. M. A. C. purchased in the State of Indiana approximately 23,000 instalment sales contracts from more than 500 retail sellers.

Tenth. Irreparable damage and injury upon complainant and upon its business will ensue unless this Honorable Court shall re-train enforcement of the Act as threatened by the defendants, and, particularly, the enforcement of the following provisions thereof:

(a) the provisions of the Act granting to the Department of Financial Institutions the power to fix prices by

fixing and changing from time to time, on thirty (30) days' notice, the maximum "finance charge" and, accordingly, the maximum time price at which retail sellers may sell their automobiles (Sections 6 and 26), together with

(b) the provision of the Act (Section 15 (d)) which limits the amount which G. M. A. C. may receive as its gross profit for the purchase of an instalment contract to a sum not exceeding such maximum "finance charge",—by prohibiting G. M. A. C. from purchasing any retail instalment contracts "at a less price than the unpaid balance thereon"; and

(c) the provisions of the Act granting to the Department of Financial Institutions the power to fix from time to time, on such notice as it may determine, the amount of the reduction in the unpaid time balance to which retail buyers are to be entitled upon prepayment of the unpaid balance of their instalment contracts, and, accordingly, the value of all such contracts which may be purchased by and assigned to G. M. A. C. (Section 6); and

(d) the provisions of the Act granting to the Department of Financial Institutions the power from time to time to fix, on such notice as it may determine, the maximum [fol. 8] amount which may be given by G. M. A. C. to retail sellers out of the "finance charge" received from retail buyers under instalment sale contracts sold to G. M. A. C., and requiring the Department to fix such maximum without regard to any differentiation as between contracts sold to licensees by retail sellers with recourse against such sellers and contracts sold by retail sellers without recourse against them (Section 10); and

(e) the provisions of the Act granting to the Department of Financial Institutions the power from time to time to fix, on such notice as it may determine, the maximum amounts which may be charged the retail buyer for failure to pay any instalment of the time balance when it is due (Sections 6 and 26).

The right of the Department of Financial Institutions from time to time to exercise the foregoing powers will work continuing irreparable damage upon the business of G. M. A. C. by creating uncertainty which will impair the efficiency of its operations and its earnings, and by render-

ing hazardous the making of any future commitments or any contracts extending over definite periods of time for the purchase of retail instalment contracts, the determination of its borrowing requirements and the obtaining of capital required in the conduct of its business.

(f) the provisions of the Act which restrict the future sale of instalment sale contracts to those parties only who have a license from the Department of Financial Institutions (Sections 9, 11, 15), and impose upon G. M. A. C. burdensome requirements with respect to the keeping and publicity of records and the payment of license and other fees (Sections 18, 19 and 20); and

(g) the provisions of the Act which subject G. M. A. C. to severe and excessive liabilities, both civil and criminal, for any violation of the Act (Section 29).

Eleventh. Complainant is without adequate remedy at law in the premises and it is only in a suit of this nature and by the injunctive process of this Court that such irreparable damage and injury can be avoided and complainant fully protected in the enjoyment of its property and rights as aforesaid.

Wherefore, your complainant prays that a temporary restraining order issue, enjoining and restraining said defendants and each of them from enforcing or attempting to enforce against this complainant the provisions of said Act and the penalties therein prescribed for its violation until such time as complainant's application for temporary injunction herein prayed, can be heard and determined; that the judge of this court enter an order immediately calling to his assistance to hear and determine this application two other judges, according to the provisions of the [fol. 9] statutes of the United States; that an order be issued directing the several defendants and each of them in their capacities above designated to show cause before this honorable court, as thereby constituted, at a time and place to be fixed by this court, why writs of preliminary injunction should not issue herein prior to July 1, 1935, the effective date of the Act, temporarily restraining and prohibiting the said defendants and each of them, their agents and employees, from enforcing or threatening to enforce the provisions of the said Act and the penalties for violations

of its provisions and that at the hearing of this application said writs issue.

And complainents further pray that the process of this Court, as a court of equity, do issue against said defendants and each of them, requiring them fully and completely to answer this bill of complaint but not under oath, their answer under oath being waived; and that after due hearings on the merits, there be judgment perpetuating the said writs of injunction and perpetually enjoining and restraining the said defendants and each of them, their agents and employees, from in any manner enforcing or threatening to enforce against complainants the provisions of said Act, and finally and definitely declaring said Act to be unconstitutional, null, and void, and complainants further pray for all orders and decrees necessary or proper in the premises; and for such other and further relief as to the court may seem just and proper.

General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc., by L. H. Pomeroy, Vice President, Complainants. Paul Y. Davis, of Counsel. Smith, Remster, Hornbrook & Smith, Solicitors for Complainants.

Duly sworn to by L. H. Pomeroy. Jurat omitted in printing.

[fol. 10] EXHIBIT "A" TO BILL OF COMPLAINT

Engrossed House Bill No. 377

A Bill for an Act to license and regulate and to promote competition in the business of purchasing contracts arising out of retail installment sales, to prescribe the form of such contracts, to empower the Department of Financial Institutions to classify retail installment sales and contracts arising therefrom and to fix and prescribe maximum charges for the extension of credit in retail installment sales.

Section 1. Definition of Terms.—Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, That in this act, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

The term "retail installment sale", or the plural thereof, means and includes every retail contract to sell specific goods and every retail sale of specific goods to any person:

(a) in which the cash price of the goods is not in excess of $1500., and may be paid in installments over a period of time and,

(b) in which the seller has taken or retained a security interest in the goods.

The term "person" includes a corporation or partnership of two or more persons having a joint or common interest.

The term "goods" includes all chattels personal other than money, things in action, emblements, industrial growing crops, things so affixed to the land as to become a part thereof, or things attached to or forming part of the land which are agreed to be severed before sale or under the contract of sale.

The term "specific goods" means goods identified and agreed upon at the time a contract to sell or a sale is made.

The term "retail" means to dispose of specific goods to, or to acquire specific goods by, a person who may consume such goods for his personal use.

The term "buyer" means a person who buys or agrees to buy goods, or any legal successor in interest of such person.

The term "retail buyer" means a buyer who is a party to a retail installment sale, or any legal successor in interest of such person, and includes any person who as surety, indorser or guarantor or otherwise is liable on the obligation created by any retail buyer on any retail installment contract.

The term "seller" means a person who sells or agrees to sell goods.

The term "retail seller" means a seller who is a party to a retail installment sale.

The term "cash price" means the price, measured in dollars, agreed upon in good faith by the parties for the specific goods which are the subject matter of any retail installment sale.

The term "retail installment contract" means any written instrument, lawful under this act, which is executed in connection with any retail installment sale and is required by section 2 hereof or is authorized by section 3 hereof, and the term may include all such instruments executed in connection with any retail installment sale.

The terms "contract to sell", "sale" and "conditional sale" shall have the same meaning in this act as they are respectively defined in the Uniform Sales Act and Uniform Conditional Sales Act.

The term "conditional sale contract" means any written instrument evidencing a conditional sale.

The term "bank or trust company" means any national banking association formed under the laws of the United States with its principal office located in this state and doing business herein and any bank or trust company, any bank of discount and deposit, loan and trust and safe deposit company, or trust company organized and doing business under the provisions of any law of this state.

[fol. 11] The term "department" means "The Department of Financial Institutions".

The term "manufacturer" means a person who is engaged, directly or indirectly, in the manufacture or distribution of specific goods which may become the subject matter of a retail installment sale in this state.

The term "finance charge" means any consideration which the retail buyer contracts to pay the retail seller for the privilege of paying the principal balance in installments over a period of time.

The term "security interest" means a property interest in goods which are the subject matter of a retail installment sale, limited in extent to securing performance of some obligation of the retail buyer or of some third person to the retail seller and includes the interest of a mortgagee of the goods and title to the goods whether or not expressed to be absolute, whenever such title is, in substance, retained for security only.

Section 2. Written Instrument.—Every retail installment sale shall be evidenced by an instrument in writing signed by the retail buyer, and a copy thereof shall be delivered to him by the retail seller at the time of its execution. An acknowledgment of the delivery thereof contained in the body of the instrument shall be conclusive proof of delivery in any action to enforce any obligation arising out of the retail installment sale. The written instrument shall contain all of the agreements of the parties made with reference to the specific goods which are the subject matter of the retail installment sale, and shall set forth specifically all items and matters required by this act. The reference

to insurance shall recite generally the type or types of insurance the retail seller has agreed to procure for the retail buyer but such reference to insurance shall not be construed to imply the scope of the coverage, the terms, exceptions, limitations, restrictions or conditions of the contract or contracts of insurance to be furnished. Nothing in this act shall be construed to require the retail seller to comply with the provisions hereof at any time prior to the delivery of the specific goods to the retail buyer.

Section 3. Retail Installment Contracts.—Any retail seller may require any retail buyer to execute and deliver a promissory note to evidence the indebtedness created by any retail installment sale, and, to secure the payment of the indebtedness created by the sale or evidenced by the promissory note or to secure the performance of any other condition of the sale, may require the retail buyer to execute and deliver a conditional sale contract, chattel mortgage or other instrument to give the retail seller a security interest in the specific goods which were the subject matter of the retail installment sale. The written instrument required by section 2 hereof may evidence a conditional sale.

Section 4. Provisions of Written Instruments. Every written instrument evidencing a retail installment sale shall recite the following separate items as such and in the following order:

(1) The cash price of the specific goods.

(2) The amount in cash of the retail buyer's down payment, whether made in money or goods or partly in money or partly in goods.

The term "down payment" for the purpose of this section, shall mean that part payment of the cash price required by the retail seller as a condition to the delivery of the specific goods sold or to be sold or to the extension of credit to the retail buyer for any portion of the cash price.

(3) The unpaid balance of the cash price payable by the retail buyer to the retail seller which is the difference between items (1) and (2).

(4) The cost to the retail buyer of any insurance the retail buyer has agreed to procure, if the retail seller has

agreed to purchase the insurance and extend credit to the retail buyer for the price thereof.

(5) The principal balance owed on the retail installment contract which is the sum total of items (3) and (4).

(6) The amount of the finance charge.

(7) The time balance owed by the retail buyer to the retail seller and the number of installment payments required and the amount and date of each payment necessary finally to pay the time balance which is the sum total of items (5) and (6).

[fol. 12] Item (4) and item (6) may be added together and stated as one sum in the written instrument and if so stated item (5) may be omitted, but in such event the retail seller shall, within twenty-five days after the making of the retail installment contract, mail to the retail buyer at his address as shown on the retail installment contract a statement reciting the separate amounts of items (4) and (6).

Section 5. The Insurance.—Any retail seller who, in any retail installment contract, has agreed to purchase insurance for the retail buyer and to extend credit for the price thereof, shall, within twenty-five days after the making of the retail installment contract, mail to the retail buyer at his address as shown on the retail installment contract, a policy or policies of insurance or in lieu thereof a certificate briefly describing the protection afforded by the insurance procured, and the kind and amount thereof. If the premium for insurance of like kind and amount, as fixed in the published manual of a recognized standard rating bureau designated by the retail seller, is less than the amount charged the retail buyer as fixed in the written instrument in compliance with item (4) of section 4 hereof, the retail buyer may deduct an amount equal to the difference from the amount of the last payment owed the retail seller. If, before the sale, assignment or transfer of the retail installment contract, the retail seller has not purchased the insurance for the retail buyer which the former, under the terms of the retail installment contract, is required to purchase, any licensee hereunder who becomes the owner, assignee or transferee of the retail installment contract shall, within twenty-five days after the execution of the assignment, pur-

chase the insurance and mail the policies or certificates, instead of the retail seller as required above, and may, subject to the provisions of this section, collect and receive the amount of the cost thereof which was included as a part of the principal balance on the retail installment contract.

Section 6. The Finance Charge and Prepayment.—Subject to the provisions of this act, any retail seller at the time of making any retail installment sale may contract for the payment of a finance charge by the retail buyer and collect and receive the same. The finance charge contracted for in any retail installment contract may not exceed the maximum finance charge then authorized by the department as in this act provided. Every retail buyer shall have the right, at any time, to pay the then unpaid time balance owed on any retail installment contract, whether then due or not, and upon payment therefor, any holder of the retail installment contract shall reduce the amount of the then unpaid time balance by the amount fixed and determined in accordance with the regulations of the department in force as of the date of the making of the particular retail installment contract and applicable to such cases. The reduction herein authorized may be known as a discount and every retail buyer, upon full prepayment of any unpaid time balance owed by him on any retail installment contract, shall receive the discount but only in the amount, at the times and upon the conditions provided herein. The department shall and is hereby authorized to fix and determine the amount of any discount to be given for prepayment as in this section authorized but no such discount shall be for an amount in excess of the amount of the finance charge on any particular retail installment contract.

Every retail seller may, at the time of making any retail installment sale, contract for the payment by the retail buyer of lawful delinquent charges for failure to pay any installment of the time balance on the date specified in the retail installment contract, and any retail seller or any lawful holder of a retail installment contract in which delinquent charges are contracted for may collect and receive the charges lawfully contracted for.

Section 7. Limitation on Amount of Debt and Charges.—No retail installment contract authorized by section 3 of this act which is executed in connection with any retail in-

stallment sale shall evidence any indebtedness in excess of the time balance fixed, in the written instrument in compliance with item (7) of section 4 of this act, but it may evidence in addition, any agreements of the parties including agreements for the payment of delinquent charges, taxes and fees, including attorney's fees. No retail seller, directly or indirectly, shall contract for or receive from any retail buyer as consideration for the extension of credit to the retail buyer, for the amount of the principal balance, any further or other amount whatsoever for examination, service, brokerage, commission, expense, fee or other thing of value than the finance charge, charges and fees permitted by this act, taxes on account of any retail installment contract or on specific goods sold thereunder and any lawful fees actually paid out by the retail seller to any public officer for the filing or recording or releasing any instrument securing the payment of the obligation owed on any retail installment contract. The lawful fees may be collected when the retail installment contract is made or at any time thereafter, but may not be included in the principal balance fixed in the written instrument in compliance with Item (5) of section 4 hereof.

[fol. 13] Section 8. Limitation on Recovery and Enforcement of Lien.—No retail installment contract which evidences an indebtedness greater than allowed by section 7 hereof and no retail installment contract in connection with which any charge prohibited by this act has been contracted for or received shall be enforceable against any retail buyer for any amount in excess of the principal balance thereof and no security interest created by any such retail installment contract in connection with which an indebtedness is evidenced which is greater than allowed by section 7 hereof or in connection with which any charge prohibited by this act has been contracted for or received shall be enforceable for an amount in excess of the principal balance against any retail buyer in default under the terms of the retail installment contract.

Section 9. Limitation on Assignment of Contracts.—Except as in this section otherwise provided, every retail installment contract shall be assignable and the interest therein transferable to any person or persons. No retail seller may sell, assign and transfer any retail installment

contract to any person other than a licensee under this act. Any retail installment contract which is or has been owned by a licensee may be enforced and collected by the holder thereof according to its lawful terms.

Section 10. Purchase of Retail Installment Contracts.—Any licensee hereunder may purchase any retail installment contract on such terms and conditions not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, and at such price and upon such terms as to the payment of the price, as may be agreed upon between the licensee and the retail seller. The records of the licensee shall show the price actually paid for retail installment contracts separately assigned to such licensee but retail installment contracts may be assigned in group or in bulk to any licensee as may from time to time be authorized by the department by regulation without disclosing the purchase price of the individual retail installment contracts. The department is authorized to make regulations from time to time concerning the purchase by licensees of retail installment contracts in group or in bulk and any purchase of such retail installment contracts made within the terms of the regulations shall not be construed as an attempt to avoid the operation and effect of this act.

No licensee shall enter into any agreement with any retail seller regarding the purchase of any retail installment contract whereby the retail seller shall receive, directly or indirectly, any benefit from or part of any amount collected or received from any retail buyer as a finance charge or as the cost of the insurance to the retail buyer, in excess of an amount fixed and determined by the department and no licensee shall directly or indirectly pay any part of the amount collected as a finance charge or retail buyer's cost of insurance to any retail seller on any retail installment contract purchased from him in excess of the amount so fixed; and the department shall fix such maximum amount which may be so paid but without regard to any differentiation as to whether the retail installment contract is sold to the licensee with recourse on the seller in the event of the default of the buyer or without such recourse or under an agreement by which the seller agrees to repurchase the specific goods described in the retail installment contract if such buyer in such contract defaults and such goods are repossessed.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to any bona fide loan made to any retail seller which the retail seller is under an unqualified duty to repay as such, and which he has secured as to payment, by the sale, assignment, or transfer of retail installment contracts to the lender.

Section 11. Licensees.—No person shall purchase retail installment contracts from a retail seller doing business in this state or engage in the business of purchasing retail installment contracts from retail sellers doing business in this state or, unless a bank or trust company make loans to a retail seller doing business in this state on the security of retail installment contracts or engage in the business of making loans to retail sellers in this state on the security of retail installment contracts unless the department has licensed such person to do such business and has issued to the person a written instrument evidencing the license as in this act provided. Any person who desires to purchase retail installment contracts from retail sellers doing business in this state or to engage in the business of purchasing retail installment contracts from retail sellers doing business in this state or, unless a bank or trust company, to make loans to retail sellers doing business in this state on the security of retail installment contracts or to engage in the business of making loans to retail sellers doing business in this state on the security of retail installment contracts, shall file an application for a license on forms prescribed by the department and pay the fees required herein.

[fol. 14] Section 12. Application for License and Fees.—The application for license shall contain:

(a) the name and address of the principal office of the applicant,

(b) if applicant has one or more branches operating in this state, the place of business of each such branch at the date of the application,

(c) the trade name, if any, under which applicant's business is to be conducted and if applicant is a co-partnership, the name of every member thereof and if a corporation, of each officer and director thereof,

(d) the total authorized investment used or to be used in the business in this state and if a corporation, the amount of the capital stock thereof issued and outstanding,

(e) a statement of the total amount of business transacted by it in this state during the fiscal year next preceding the date of the application,

(f) such other information touching the business of the applicant as the department may require.

The department is hereby authorized to prescribe the forms of the application and require such additional information as to it may seem necessary properly to regulate the business of the licensee. The forms prescribed shall require the applicant to agree to give notice to all retail sellers in this state with which it does business, when requested so to do by the department, of any and all orders which the department may make respecting classes of retail installment sales or contracts or maximum finance charges as provided in section 26 of this act and to keep in this state, subject to examination, adequate records pertaining to the business done in this state.

The application shall be verified by the proper person and every applicant, other than a bank or trust company or an industrial loan and investment company authorized to issue certificates of indebtedness or investment, shall pay the department the sum of one hundred dollars as an annual license fee at the time of the filing of the application. Any bank or trust company or industrial loan and investment company authorized to issue certificates of indebtedness or investment which shall apply for a license under this act shall pay the department the sum of ten dollars as an annual license fee at the time of the filing of the application. If the period for which the license is to run is less than six months one-half of the annual fee shall be charged. On or before the 20th day of June in each year every licensee shall pay the department the annual license fee provided herein for such licensee for the year commencing on the next succeeding July 1 and shall file an application in the form prescribed by the department. All license fees collected by the department shall be paid into the state treasury and become a part of the financial institutions fund and subject to the provisions of law relating thereto.

Section 13. Approval or Rejection of Application.—Upon the filing of any application for license and the payment of the license fee required by this act, if the department shall find that the applicant can operate its business economically and efficiently, it shall thereupon issue and deliver a license to the applicant. In considering economic and efficient operation the department shall take into consideration the fact that this act is designed to promote competition between licensees for the benefit of the class of retail buyers within its scope. The license shall authorize the applicant to do the business otherwise prohibited by this act. The license shall remain in full force and effect until it is surrendered, revoked or suspended as in this act provided. If the department shall find that the applicant cannot operate its business economically and efficiently within the scope of this act, it shall not issue a license to the applicant but shall notify the applicant of the denial, and return to the applicant the fee theretofore paid. The department shall give every applicant a reasonable opportunity to be heard with respect to the application, and shall approve or deny, by written order, every application for license hereunder within thirty days from the hearing thereon.

Section 14. Form of License. The instrument evidencing the license shall be in such form as may be prescribed by the department, and in addition thereto shall contain the following:

[fol. 15] (a) the name of the person licensed,

(b) the name of all partners if applicant is a co-partnership,

(c) the principal office of the applicant.

The instrument evidencing the license, or a certified copy thereof provided by the department, shall be kept posted conspicuously in the principal office of applicant and in every branch maintained and operated by applicant in this state.

Section 15. Revocation of License. The Department is hereby authorized to revoke or suspend any license issued under this act if, after hearing, it finds:

(a) that the licensee has refused to permit the department to make any examination authorized hereunder or

has failed to pay the cost of any examination made by the department or the annual license fee required hereby or any penalty assessed by the department against the licensee, or

(b) that the licensee has wilfully failed to comply with any rule or regulation of the department lawfully made hereunder, or

(c) that the licensee has wilfully violated any provision of this act, or any rule or regulation of the department lawfully made hereunder, or

(d) that the licensee has wilfully avoided or attempted to avoid the operation or effect of this act by purchasing any retail installment contract or contracts at a less price than the unpaid balance thereon or by entering into any agreement combination or understanding express or implied with any retail seller the effect of which agreement, combination or understanding may be to avoid or attempt to avoid the operation or effect of this act.

The department shall give any licensee whose license it proposes to revoke ten days' notice in writing of the contemplated action and of the general grounds therefor. Before the license is revoked or suspended, the licensee shall be given reasonable opportunity to be heard. Licenses may be revoked or suspended only by written order. If the department finds that the grounds for revocation or suspension of the license are applicable only to one branch or some branches operated by the licensee, it may revoke or suspend the license as to that branch or those branches only, or it may revoke the right of the licensee to do business as a licensee in this state. No revocation or suspension or surrender of any license shall impair or affect the obligation of any lawful retail installment contract theretofore made.

Section 16. Recourse to Court.—Any person feeling aggrieved with any decision of the department made as in this act provided may commence an action in the circuit or superior court of the county in which the business operated by such person is located against said department as defendant to vacate or set aside any such order or decision of the department upon the grounds that any such regulation, order or decision of the department is insufficient, un-

reasonable or unlawful, in which action a copy of the complaint shall be served with the summons. The answer of the department to the complaint shall be filed within ten days after service of summons. All such actions shall have precedence over civil cases not of the same nature pending in any such court and such circuit or superior court shall always be deemed open for the trial thereof and the same shall be tried and determined as other civil actions.

Any such proceeding, action or suit to set aside or vacate any decision or order of the department or to prevent in any way such order or decision from becoming effective shall be commenced and every right of recourse to the courts shall be exercised within thirty days after the entry or rendition of such order or decision and the right to commence any such action, proceeding or suit or to exercise the right of any recourse to the courts shall terminate absolutely at the end of such thirty days after such entry or rendition thereof. Either party to any such action in the circuit or superior court shall have a right of appeal to the supreme court of the State of Indiana as in other civil cases.

[fol. 16] Section 17. Surrender of License.—Any licensee hereunder may surrender any license theretofore issued to it by the department at any time after ten days' notice to the department in writing stating that the licensee proposes to and does thereby surrender the license as of a certain effective date named. The surrender of a license by a licensee shall not affect the civil or criminal liability or liability for fees or penalties which the licensee may be under by virtue of any act done prior to the surrender of the license.

Section 18. Report of Licensees.—Every licensee hereunder shall annually on or before the 15th day of March file a report with the department giving such relevant information as the department may require concerning the business and operation of the licensee in this state during the preceding calendar year. The report shall be made under oath and in the form prescribed by the department.

Section 19. Examination of Licensees.—The department may at any time investigate the business done in this state by any licensee hereunder, and for that purpose examine the books, accounts, records and files used and maintained

by such licensees and their agents, brokers or other representatives. The department may also investigate the business of any person who is not a licensee hereunder and who is doing any business or act, the doing of which is prohibited hereby to persons other than licensees or banks or trust companies. For the purpose of discovering violations of this act and procuring information necessary to fix a maximum finance charge applicable to retail installment contracts, the department in making investigations authorized by this section shall have access to all books, accounts, papers, records, files, safes and vaults of any persons being examined and may require such persons to attend and testify relative to any transactions or business which may come within the scope of this act. In case of the disobedience on the part of any person to comply with any lawful order of the department or any lawful subpœna, or upon the refusal of any witness to appear and testify to any matter regarding which he may be lawfully interrogated, upon petition of the department setting forth the facts, it shall be the duty of the circuit or superior court of the county of which such person is a resident, or the judge thereof in vacation, to compel obedience to the lawful requirements of the subpœna or order and to compel the production of necessary and required books, papers, records, documents and other evidence, and upon the failure, refusal or neglect of any person to comply with the order of the court or the judge thereof, such person shall be punished as for contempt of court.

Section 20. Costs of Examination.—The department shall prescribe and fix a schedule of fees, which are hereby imposed and shall be charged and collected by the department, for the services rendered and the duties performed by the department, under and by virtue of the provisions of this act in the supervision, regulation and examination of licensees hereunder and the schedule of fees so prescribed and fixed shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of section 35 of the Indiana Financial Institutions Act. For the purposes of this section a licensee hereunder shall be termed a financial institution. The fees fixed and prescribed in the schedule may include the cost incurred by the department in fixing a finance charge under the provisions of this act. No licensee shall be required to pay any fee for examination unless the cost to the de-

partment of making such examination shall exceed the license fee paid in compliance with the provisions of this act. All costs assessed by the department at the time of the making of any examination and paid by the licensee shall be paid into the state treasury and become a part of the financial institutions fund and subject to the provisions of law relating thereto. If any licensee refuses to permit the department to make an examination it shall be subject to such penalty as the department may assess, not in excess of one hundred dollars for each day any such refusal shall continue. Any penalty assessed by the department may be collected in an action brought in the name of the State of Indiana on the relation of "The Department of Financial Institutions" in the circuit or superior court of the county in which the licensee has its principal place of business.

Section 21. Contracts to Prevent Competition.—No manufacturer shall sell or contract to sell specific goods which may become the subject matter of a retail installment sale in this state, whether patented or unpatented to any retail seller in this state on the condition or with an agreement or understanding, express or implied, that the retail seller shall sell, assign or transfer any retail installment contracts arising from the retail installment sales of the goods, or any part thereof only to a designated licensee or class of licensees, when the effect of the condition, agreement or understanding may be to lessen or eliminate competition, or create, or tend to create, a monopoly in the licensee or class designated. Any such condition, agreement or understanding with any retail seller in this state is hereby declared to be against the public policy of this state and to be unlawful and void.

[fol. 17] Section 22. Acts Tending to Prevent Competition.—Any threat, express or implied, made directly or indirectly, to any retail seller in this state by any manufacturer that the manufacturer will discontinue or cease to sell, or refuse to enter into a contract to sell, or will terminate a contract to sell, specific goods which may become the subject matter of a retail installment sale in this state, whether patented or unpatented, to the retail seller, unless the retail seller sells, assigns or transfers the retail installment contracts arising from his retail installment sales to

any designated licensee or class of licensees, shall be prima facie evidence that the manufacturer has sold or intends to sell such specific goods on the condition or with the agreement or understanding prohibited by section 21 hereof.

Section 23. Further Acts Tending to Prevent Competition.—Any threat, express or implied, made directly or indirectly to any retail seller in this state by any licensee hereunder that is affiliated with or controlled by any manufacturer that the manufacturer will terminate his contract with or cease to sell specific goods which may become the subject matter of a retail installment sale to the retail seller unless the retail seller sells, assigns or transfers the retail installment contracts arising from his retail installment sales to the licensee making the threat, shall be presumed to be made at the direction of and with the authority of the manufacturer and shall be prima facie evidence of the fact that the manufacturer has sold or intends to sell the specific goods on the condition or with the agreement or understanding prohibited by section 21 hereof.

Section 24. Subsidy of Licensees.—No manufacturer shall pay or give or contract to pay or give any thing or service of value to any licensee in this state, and no licensee in this state shall accept or receive or contract or agree to accept or receive, directly or indirectly, any payment, thing or service of value from any manufacturer, if the effect of the payment or giving of any such thing or service of value by the manufacturer, or the acceptance or receipt thereof by the licensee, may be to lessen or eliminate competition or tend to create or create a monopoly in the licensee that accepts or receives the payment, thing or service of value or contracts or agrees to accept or receive the same.

Section 25. Rules and Regulations.—The department shall have authority from time to time to make, amend and rescind rules and regulations necessary to carry out and enforce the provisions of this act, including rules and regulations governing the business done in this state by licensees, the content of reports required from licensees and the manner and extent of examinations made of the business of licensees. Among other things, the department shall have authority to prescribe forms in which required information shall be set forth, items or details to be shown in balance sheets and earning statements and methods to be fol-

lowed in the preparation of accounts necessary to reflect factors in the business of the licensee to be reckoned with by the department when fixing a maximum finance charge on retail installment contracts. The rules and regulations of the department, other than those issued pursuant to the authority vested in the department by section 26 of this act, shall be published and be effective in the manner and at the time prescribed by the department. No provision of this act imposing any liability shall apply to any act done or omitted in good faith in conformity with any rule or regulation of the department, notwithstanding that the rule or regulation may, after the act or omission, be amended or rescinded or be determined by judicial or other authority to be invalid for any reason.

Section 26. Classification of Retail Contract and Variable Finance Charges.—It shall be the duty of the department and the department shall have power, jurisdiction and authority to investigate retail installment contracts and ascertain the facts with reference to retail installment sales and upon the basis of the ascertained facts:

(a) to classify, by general order, retail installment sales or retail installment contracts arising therefrom, according to such system of differentiation as may reasonably distinguish the classes of retail installment sales or the contracts made in connection with such sales, and,

(b) to determine and fix by a general order the fair maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment contracts or that may be contracted for in retail installment contracts of any classes which may be established by the department, and

(c) to determine and fix by a general order the fair maximum charges that may be contracted for in any retail installment contract and which may be imposed upon the retail buyer for failure to pay any installment of the time balance when it is due.

[fol. 18] The department, in determining the classes of retail installment sales or contracts, shall take into consideration the specific goods sold thereunder, the use thereof, the length of time usually given to the retail buyer in which to pay the unpaid balance owing on any retail installment contracts made in connection with the sales and

any other factors which may reasonably afford a basis for the application of different finance charges on retail installment contracts which have or are likely to have the same or substantially the same unpaid balances.

The department, in determining the fair maximum finance charge which may be contracted for in any retail installment contracts or in any retail installment contracts of any classes which may have been established by it, shall take into consideration the availability of credit facilities to individuals who do not have the security generally required by commercial banks and the finance charge which will be necessary in order to induce sufficient amounts of efficiently operated commercial capital to enter into the business of making and purchasing retail installment contracts. The department shall fix charges sufficient to provide adequate credit facilities for retail installment sales.

The department may, from time to time, upon the basis of changed conditions or facts, reclassify retail installment sales and retail installment contracts, and redetermine and refix any maximum finance charge previously fixed by it, but the new finance charge shall not affect pre-existing retail installment contracts lawfully made. Any and all orders which the department may make respecting classes of retail installment sales or contracts or maximum finance charges shall fix the effective date of the new or changed classification or finance charge but the effective date shall not be earlier than thirty days after the date when notice of such new or changed classification or finance charge is published. Notice to the public, to retail sellers and to licensees hereunder shall be given by publication of the new or changed classification or finance charge by one publication in a daily newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the English language in the city of Indianapolis. In addition, the department may require licensees hereunder to give notice of such new or changed classification or finance charge to all retail sellers with whom the licensees do business in this state.

Any finance charge fixed by the department under the provisions of this act shall be lawful notwithstanding any other law of this state.

Section 27. Duty of Retail Seller and Licensee.—Every person to which this act is applicable shall conduct and transact his business in the manner required hereby and

every licensee hereunder shall establish and maintain methods for the conduct of his business and affairs coming within the scope of this act in accordance with the requirements hereof and of any rule or regulation of the department made in relation thereto and under the authority of this act.

Section 28. Waiver of Statutory Protection.—No agreement of any retail buyer before or at the time of the making of any retail installment contract shall constitute a valid waiver of any provisions of this act.

Section 29. Violation of Act.—Punishment.—Any person who wilfully violates any of the provisions of this act, or the rules and regulations promulgated by the department under the authority hereof or any person who wilfully in any report or account filed in pursuance of any provision of this act or rule or regulation of the department makes any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact necessary to give the department the information lawfully required by it, shall upon conviction, be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year or both.

Section 30. Interpretation.—This act shall be interpreted and construed in connection with and as supplemental to the Uniform Sales Act, as amended, and the Uniform Conditional Sales Act and any terms used in this act which are defined in either of said acts shall have the meaning given thereto by the aforementioned acts unless the context hereof clearly requires another meaning. Nothing in this act shall be construed to repeal any part of either of the acts mentioned in this section or any existing law of this state relating to interest or consideration that may be charged upon the loan, use or forbearance of money or sale of credit, but this act shall be construed as supplemental thereto.

[fols. 19 & 20] Section 31. Existing Contracts.—None of the provisions of this act shall apply to any sale or to any contract to sell made prior to the taking effect of this act which if made after this act takes effect would be a retail installment sale or contract and this act shall not affect pending litigation.

Section 32. Captions.—No caption of any section of this act shall in any way affect interpretation of this act or any part thereof.

Section 33. Severability Clause.—If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

Section 34. Short Title.—This act may be cited as the Retail Installment Sales Act.

Section 35. Time of Taking Effect.—This act shall take effect on the first day of July, 1935.

[fol. 21] In United States District Court

Subpœna—Issued June 22, 1935

The President of the United States of America to Paul V. McNutt, Governor of the State of Indiana; Philip Lutz, Attorney General of Indiana; Richard A. McKinley, Director of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana; Oscar P. Welborn, Harvey B. Hartsock, C. M. Setser, Myron Gray and Robert Batton, Members of the Commission for Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana; Herbert M. Spencer, Prosecuting Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of The State of Indiana, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded that all excuses and delays set aside you be and appear within twenty days after the service of this subpœna at the Clerk's office of the United States District Court for the Southern Dist. of Indiana, at Indianapolis, to answer unto the bill of complaint of General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Incorporated, in said Court exhibited against you. Hereof you are not to fail at your peril, and have you then and there this writ.

Witness the Honorable Robert C. Baltzell, United States District Judge at Indianapolis, this 22nd day of June, A. D. 1935.

Albert C. Sogemeier, Clerk, by Essa Phillips, Deputy Clerk. (Seal.)

Memorandum

The Defendants in this case are required to file their answer or other defense in the Clerk's office of said Court, on or before the twentieth day after service of this writ, excluding the day thereof; otherwise the Bill may be taken pro confesso.

[fol. 22] United States Marshal's Return

(Endorsed on back of Subpœna in Equity)

No. 1686 Eq.

Received this writ at Indianapolis, Indiana, June 24, 1935, and served the same, by reading the same to and within the hearing of, and by delivering a true copy of this writ to each of the within named, Paul V. McNutt, Governor of the State of Indiana, Philip Lutz, Jr., Attorney General of Indiana; Richard A. McKinley, Director of the Department of Financial Insititutions of State of Indiana; Oscar P. Welborn, Harvey B. Hartsock, members of the Commission of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana; and Herbert M. Spencer, prosecuting attorney of the 19th Judicial Circuit of State of Indiana; all at Indianapolis, Indiana, June 24, 1935.

Alf O. Meloy, U. S. Marshal, by Harry E. Gates, Deputy.

Marshal's Costs;
6 Services, $12.00.

Received this writ at Indianapolis, Indiana, June 24, 1935, and served the same, by reading the same to and within the hearing of, and by delivering a true copy of this writ to each of the within named C. M. Setser, at Columbus, Ind., June 24, 1935, and Myron Gray, at Muncie, Ind., June 25, 1935, being members of the Commission of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana. The within named Robert Batton not found in my district.

Alf O. Meloy, U. S. Marshal, by Frank A. Holmes, Deputy.

Marshal's Costs:

2 Services	$4.00
Mileage	5.70
	$9.70

[fol. 23] And afterwards to wit: at the May Term of said Court on the 28th day of June, 1935, before the Honorable Robert C. Baltzell, Judge of said Court, the following further proceedings were had herein to wit:

Comes now the defendant Herbert M. Spencer, Prosecuting Attorney, by Albert M. Thayer, his solicitor, and files appearance, which is as follows: (H. I.)

[fol. 24] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGE

Public business requiring, I hereby designate and assign the Honorable Thomas W. Slick, United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana, to hold United States District Court in the Southern District of Indiana from July 1, 1935 to October 1, 1935, and for such further time as may be necessary to complete unfinished business.

Evan A. Evans, Senior United States Circuit Judge
in and for the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

Chicago, Illinois, June 11, 1935.

[fols. 25 & 26] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

ENTRY OF CONTINUANCE—July 3, 1935

This matter coming on now to be heard upon the plaintiff's application for interlocutory injunction and the Court now continues this matter to July 8, 1935, 9:00 o'clock, A. M., daylight savings time.

[fol. 27] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

[Title omitted]

JOINT AND SEVERAL ANSWERS OF DEFENDANTS—Filed July 8, 1935

The defendants, Paul V. McNutt, Governor of the State of Indiana, Philip Lutz, Attorney General of Indiana, Richard A. McKinley, Director of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana, Oscar P. Welborn,

[fol. 28] Harvey B. Hartsock, C. M. Setzer, Myron Gray and Robert Batton, Members of the Commission for Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana, and Herbert M. Spencer, Prosecuting Attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana, for their joint and several answers to the bill of complaint filed herein by General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Incorporated, allege and say:

I

Said defendants admit so much of subdivision First of the bill of complaint herein as alleges that the complainant, General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Incorporated is a corporation duly organized and existing under the General Corporation Act of the State of Indiana and that said complainant is a citizen and resident of the State of Indiana and has its principal place of business in the City of Indianapolis, County of Marion and State of Indiana, and that said complainant has the power under its charter to buy contract obligations.

Said defendants further admit so much of subdivision First of complainant's bill of complaint as alleges that the defendant, Paul V. McNutt, is the duly elected, qualified and acting Governor of the State of Indiana and is a resident of the City of Indianapolis in the Southern District of said State; that the defendant, Philip Lutz, is the duly elected, qualified and acting Attorney General of the State of Indiana and is a resident in the Southern District of said state; and that the defendant, Richard A. McKinley is the duly appointed Director of the Department of Financial [fol. 29] Institutions of the State of Indiana and is a resident of the City of Jeffersonville in the Southern District of the State of Indiana.

Said defendants further admit so much of said sub-division First of the bill of complaint as alleges that Oscar P. Welborn, Harvey B. Hartsock, C. M. Setser, Myron Gray and Robert Batton are the duly appointed members of the Commission for Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana. That the said Welborn and Hartsock reside at Indianapolis in the Southern District of said state; that the said Setser resides at Columbus in the Southern District of said state; and that the said Gray and Batton reside respectively at Muncie and Marion in the Northern District of said state.

Said defendants further admit so much of said subdivision First of the bill of complaint as alleges that defendant Herbert M. Spencer is the duly elected, qualified and acting Prosecuting Attorney of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana wherein complainant's principal place of business is situated and that said Spencer resides at Indianapolis in the Southern District of Indiana.

II

Said defendants admit so much of subdivision Second of the bill of complaint herein as alleges that the action is a suit of a civil nature but denies that said action arises under the Constitution and laws of the United States and that the matter in controversy exceeds the sum of three thousand dollars ($3,000) in value exclusive of interest and costs.

[fol. 30]

III

Said defendants admit so much of subdivision Third of the bill of complaint herein as alleges that General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Incorporated is now and for a number of years last past has been engaged in the business of purchasing retail installment sales contracts covering products manufactured by General Motors Corporation or its divisions and sold by dealers and that most of these retail installment sales contracts involve purchases where the cash price would be less than fifteen hundred dollars ($1500) and that in all of them said complainant obtains by purchase and assignment thereof a security interest in the goods sold.

IV

The defendants admit so much of subdivision Fourth of the bill of complaint herein as alleges that complainant under arrangements with retail sellers has for years purchased and desires to continue to purchase retail installment contracts at such prices and on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be agreed upon by them and that the business relation now existing between the said complainant and a large number of retail sellers engaged in the business of selling at retail new and used automobiles and other General Motors' products in the State of Indiana is mutually of great business advantage and value.

Further answering said subdivision Fourth of the bill of complaint herein said defendants allege that the arrangements with retail sellers therein referred to is a [fol. 31] method employed by the complainant and said retail sellers for the extension of credit to buyers of said products referred to in the complaint whereby, among other things, a charge is made to be paid by the buyer of said products for the credit extended and for the loan or the forbearance of money, goods, wares or merchandise and that the business of said complainant in relation thereto is the financing for and on behalf of said retail sellers of the merchandise sold by said retail sellers on credit; that under the arrangements referred to by complainant between it and the retail sellers, complainant furnishes retail sellers with rate charts, forms of contracts and material designed to facilitate the extension of credit to the retail buyer and the retail seller has no part in the determination of the costs of such credit extension.

V

Said defendants admit so much of subdivision Fifth of the bill of complaint herein as alleges that by act approved by the Governor of the State of Indiana on March 11, 1935, Chapter 231 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Indiana of 1935 became a law and that this law is entitled "An Act to license and regulate and to promote competition in the business of purchasing contracts arising out of retail installment sales, to prescribe the form of such contracts, to empower the department of financial institutions to classify retail installment sales and contracts arising therefrom and to fix and prescribe maximum charges for the extension of credit in retail installment sales," and that said act became effective from and after the 1st day of July 1935 and [fol. 32] that the copy of said act attached to the bill of complaint herein is a correct copy thereof.

VI

The defendants deny so much of subdivision Sixth of the bill of complaint herein as alleges that said Chapter 231 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1935 is unconstitutional and void in that its enforcement would deprive complainant of its property without due process of law and

deny to it equal protection of the laws in violation of Section 1 of Article XIV of the Amendments to the Constitution of the United States by illegally delegating to the Department for Financial Institutions legislative powers in violation of Section 1 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Indiana and by arbitrarily, unreasonably and unjustifiably regulating and controlling the business and affairs of the complainant and fixing the term and price at which and the manner in which retail sellers may sell and conduct their sale of automobiles and other General Motors' products at time price payable in installments and the manner, terms and price in and at which retail sellers may sell and complainant may purchase the installment sale contracts arising from such sales.

Said defendants further answering said subdivision Sixth of the bill of complaint herein allege that said act is not unconstitutional and void and that its enforcement will not deprive complainant of its property without due process of law nor deny to it the equal protection of the laws as alleged in said bill of complaint but said defendants further allege that said business is affected with such a public interest as to justify regulation in the interest of the public welfare and that the provisions of said act are not arbi- [fol. 33] trary, unreasonably and unjustifiable.

VII

The said defendants in answer to subdivision Seventh of the complaint herein allege and say that said subdivision purports to state the sections by number upon which the complainant relies and purports to state an interpretation of said sections; that said interpretations are not full and complete and to that extent are misleading and insufficient but defendants allege that under a proper construction of said act said sections do not deny to the complainant the equal protection of the laws nor do they deprive the complainant of due process of law. That said act is for the purpose of the regulation under the police power of the state of the business of retail installment selling particularly with reference to the finance charge for such services and that the methods set out in said sections and the classifications referred to in said sections are reasonably adapted to the exercise of such police power and are not arbitrary, unreasonable or unjustifiable.

VIII

Answering complainant's subdivision Eighth the defendants admit the allegations thereof and allege further that since the filing of this complaint the department has promulgated the said regulations hereto attached and hereof made a part marked exhibit A and said defendants admit that they will in so far as required by said act in their respective capacities enforce the same in all of its provi- [fol. 34] sions unless restrained by the Court.

IX

Defendants answering subdivision Ninth of the complainant's bill of complaint say that they are not advised as to the matters therein contained and alleged and therefore said defendants neither admit nor deny the allegations of said subdivision Ninth aforesaid.

X

Answering subdivision Tenth of the bill of complaint herein the defendants deny so much of said subdivision Tenth as alleges that the enforcement of the act and especially the provisions therein set out will result in irreparable damage and injury to the complainant and its business and deny so much of said subdivision as alleges that the enforcement of said act will work continued irreparable damage upon the business of the complainant by creating uncertainty which will impair the efficiency of its operation and its earnings and by rendering hazardous any future commitments and any contracts extending over definitive periods of time for the purchase of retail installment contracts, the determination of its borrowing requirements and the obtaining of capital required in the conduct of its business.

XI

The defendants deny so much of said subdivision Eleventh of the bill of complaint herein as alleges that complainant is without adequate remedy at law in the premises and that it is only by the injunctive process of this court that such irreparable damage and injury can be avoided and complainant fully protected in the enjoyment of its property [fol. 35] and rights, and said defendants allege that the

enforcement of said act will not produce irreparable damage and injury.

XII

Said defendants answering further the bill of complaint in said cause say:

1. That the court is without jurisdiction, less than three thousand dollars being involved in the controversy herein and no federal question being sufficiently stated therein.

2. That the Act of the General Assembly of Indiana complained of is constitutional and valid and that complainant is not deprived of due process of law or the equal protection of the laws by said act.

Wherefore said defendants pray that said bill of complaint be dismissed and that the relief therein prayed for be denied.

Philip Lutz, Jr., Attorney General; Fred A. Winking, Chief Assistant Attorney General; Joseph W. Hutchison, Assistant Attorney General, Attorneys for Defendants. Leo M. Gardner, of Counsel.

[fol. 36] EXHIBIT "A" TO ANSWERS

State of Indiana

The Department of Financial Institutions

Retail Installment Sales Act

General Order No. 1

Pursuant to the power and authority vested in it under Chapter 231 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana for the Year of 1935, which Chapter was approved on March 11, 1935, and became effective in its entirety on July 1, 1935, and is now in full force and effect.

The Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana does hereby classify "Retail Installment Sales" and "Retail Installment Contracts" arising therefrom, and fix and determine the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in each class, as follows:

Class I. Sales of New Merchandise, Excepting Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks, Under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of $100.00 or less

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment sales of New Merchandise, excepting commercial motor vehicles and trucks, under retail installment contracts, having a principal balance of $100.00 or less, are a separate and distinct class of retail installment sales and retail installment contracts which, for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class I; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class I is two per cent. (2%) of the principal balance of said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of two and one-half per cent. (2½%) per month, computed on the declining principal balances as if the buyer paid the time balance in the installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is contracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said two per cent (2%) of the principal balance above mentioned and then in reduction of the principal balance; provided, however, that the maximum finance charge in any sale or contract of this Class shall not be less than ten per cent. (10%) of the principal balance of such contract for each year and/or fraction of year that any part of the principal balance is contracted to remain unpaid.

[fol. 37] Class II. Sales of New Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of $100.00 or Less

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment sales of new commercial motor vehicles and trucks under retail installment contracts, having a principal balance of $100.00 or less, are a separate and distinct class of retail installment sales and retail installment contracts which, for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class II; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class II is one per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods as recited in

such contract, plus two per cent (2%) of the principal balance as set forth in said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of two and one-half per cent (2½%) per month, computed on the declining principal balances as if the buyer paid the time balance in the installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is contracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said one per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods and said two per cent of the principal balance of said contract and then in the reduction of the principal balance; provided, however, that the maximum finance charge in any sale or contract of this Class shall not be less than ten per cent (10%) of the principal balance of such contract for each year and/or fraction of year that any part of the principal balance is contracted to remain unpaid, plus one per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods as recited in such contract.

Class III. Sales of New Merchandise, Excepting Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of Over $100.00

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment contracts of new merchandise, excepting commercial motor vehicles and trucks, under retail installment contracts having a principal balance of over $100.00 are a separate and distinct class of retail installment sales and retail installment contracts which, for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class III; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class III is two per cent (2%) of the principal balance of said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of two per cent (2%) per month, computed on the declining principal balances as if the buyer paid the time balance in the installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is con-
[fol. 38] tracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said two per cent (2%) of the principal balance and then in reduction of the principal balance.

Class IV. Sales of New Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of Over $100.00

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment sales of new commercial motor vehicles and trucks under retail installment contracts having a principal balance of over $100.00 are a separate and distinct class of retail installment sales and retail installment contracts which, for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class IV; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class IV is one per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods as recited in such contract, plus two per cent (2%) of the principal balance of said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of two per cent (2%) per month, computed on the declining principal balances as if the buyer paid the time balance in the installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is contracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said one per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods and said two per cent (2%) of the principal balance of said contract and then in reduction of the principal balance.

Class V. Sales of Used Merchandise, Excepting Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks, under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of $300.00 or Less.

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment sales of used merchandise, excepting commercial motor vehicles and trucks, under retail installment contracts, having a principal balance of $300.00 or less, are a separate and distinct class of retail instalment sales and retail installment contracts, which for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class V; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class V is five per cent (5%) of the principal balance of said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of three per cent (3%) per month, computed on the declining principal balances as if the buyer paid the time balance in the

installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is contracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said five per cent (5%) of the principal balance and then in reduction of the principal balance; provided, however, that the maximum finance charge in [fol. 39] any sale or contract of this Class shall not be less than—

$10.00 if the principal balance is $50.00 or less;
13.00 if the principal balance is more than $50.00 and does not exceed $70.00;
16.50 if the principal balance is more than $70.00 and does not exceed $90.00;
20.00 if the principal balance exceeds $90.00;

plus, in each instance, five per cent. (5%) of the principal balance first above mentioned.

Class VI. Sales of Used Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks Under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of $300.00 or Less

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment sales of used commercial motor vehicles and trucks under retail installment contracts having a principal balance of $300.00 or less are a separate and distinct class of retail installment sales and retail installment contracts which, for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class VI; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class VI is one per cent. (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods as recited in such contract, plus five per cent. (5%) of the principal balance as set forth in said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of three per cent (3%) per month, computed on the declining principal balances as if the buyer paid the time balance in the installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is contracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said one per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods and said five per cent (5%) of the prin-

cipal balance of said contract and then in the reduction of the principal balance; provided, however, that the maximum finance charge in any sale or contract of this Class shall not be less than—

$10.00 if the principal balance is $50.00 or less;
13.00 if the principal balance is more than $50.00 and does not exceed $70.00;

[fol. 40]

16.50 if the principal balance is more than $70.00 and does not exceed $90.00;
20.00 if the principal balance exceeds $90.00;

plus, in each instance, one per cent. (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods as recited in such contract, and five per cent (5%) of the principal balance as set forth in said contract.

Class VII. Sales of Used Merchandise, Excepting Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks, Under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of Over $300.00

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment contracts of used merchandise, excepting commercial motor vehicles and trucks, under retail installment contracts having a principal balance of over $300.00 are a separate and distinct class of retail installment sales and retail installment contracts which, for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class VII; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class VII is five per cent. (5%) of the principal balance of said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of two and one-half per cent. (2½%) per month, computed on the declining principal balance as if the buyer paid the time balance in the installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is contracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said five per cent (5%) of said principal balance of said contract and then in reduction of said principal balance; provided, however, that the maximum finance

charge in any sale or contract of this Class shall not be less than $20.00.

Class VIII. Sales of Used Commercial Motor Vehicles and Trucks Under Retail Installment Contracts Having a Principal Balance of Over $300.00

It is hereby found and ordered that retail installment sales of used commercial motor vehicles and trucks under retail installment contracts having a principal balance of over $300.00 are a separate and distinct class of retail installment sales and retail installment contracts which, for the purpose of identification, are hereby designated as Class VIII; and it is hereby fixed and determined that the maximum finance charge that may be contracted for in any retail installment sale or contract of said Class VIII is one [fol. 41] per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods as recited in such contract, plus five per cent. (5%) of the principal balance as set forth in said contract, plus an amount equal to simple interest at the rate of two and one-half per cent. (2½%) per month, computed on the declining principal balances as if the buyer paid the time balance in the installments and at the times contracted, and as if so much of each payment is applied to the payment of such interest as will pay the same to the date such payment is contracted to be paid, and the remainder of each payment is applied first to the payment of said one per cent (1%) of the cash price of the specific goods and said five per cent (5%) of the principal balance of said contract and then in reduction of the principal balance; provided, however, that the maximum finance charge in any sale or contract of this Class shall not be less than $20.00.

Dealer's Participation in Finance Charge

It is hereby ordered, fixed and determined that no licensee under said Chapter 231 of The Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana for 1935, shall enter into any agreement with any retail seller regarding the purchase of any retail installment contract whereby the retail seller shall receive, directly or indirectly, any benefit from or part of any amount collected or received from any retail buyer, as a finance charge or as the cost of the insurance to the retail buyer, in excess of two per cent. (2%) of

the principal balance as used in Item (5) under Section 4 of said Act, in the case of retail installment contracts of Classes I, II, III and IV, as established by this order, and five per cent. (5%) of the principal balance as used in Item (5) under Section 4 of said Act, in the case of retail installment contracts of Classes V, VI, VII and VIII, as established by this order, and no licensee shall, directly or indirectly, pay any part of the amount collected as a finance charge, or retail buyer's cost of insurance, to any retail seller on any retail installment contract purchased from him, in excess of said amounts herein fixed.

Maximu n Delinquent Fees

It is hereby ordered, fixed and determined that no retail seller may contract, at the time of the making of any retail installment contract, for the payment by the retail buyer of delinquent charges for failure to pay any installment of the time balance on the date specified in the retail installment contract, or collect or receive any such delinquent charges in excess of—

$.15 on payment of a less amount than $15.00 and
.25 on payments of $15.00 and over which are delinquent more than 2 days but not more than 7 days;

[fol. 42]

$.25 on payments of a less amount than $15.00 and
.50 on payments of $15.00 and over which are delinquent more than 7 days but not more than 11 days;
$.40 on payments of less amount than $15.00 and
.75 on payments of $15.00 and over which are delinquent more than 11 days but not more than 24 days;
$.50 on payments of less amount than $15.00 and
1.00 on payments of $15.00 and over which are delinquent more than 24 days;

plus, in each instance, the actual expenses which the holder of the retail installment contract has in connection with making the collection of such installment in excess of the amount herein above set forth; and plus, also, a finance charge equal to simple interest at the rate of—

2½% per month on contracts of Classes I and II;
2% per month on contracts of Classes III and IV;
3% per month on contracts of Classes V and VI;
2½% per month on contracts of Classes VII and VIII

for the actual number of days each such installment remains delinquent or is extended by the agreement of the parties;

Provided, also, that the holder of the retail installment contract shall keep at all times with the record of such account a verified statement of the actual expenses charged to the retail buyer in connection with making any collection of a delinquent installment or installments as herein authorized.

Minimum Discount for Prepayment

It is hereby ordered, fixed and determined that each retail buyer who pays the full unpaid time balance of his retail installment contract at or before the time the installment thereof preceding the last installment is due, shall receive a discount from such time balance equal to interest at the rate of one per cent. (1%) per month on each installment so prepaid for the respective full install- [fol. 43] ment period or periods that each such installment or installments are paid prior to being due by the terms of the contract; provided, however, that if the retail installment contract included a finance charge of less than one per cent. (1%) per month when calculated on declining principal balances, as that part of the maximum finance charges based on simple interest is provided to be computed in this order, then the discount shall not be less than interest computed at the rate of the finance charge as so calculated, computed in the manner in this paragraph provided.

This general order shall be in full force and effect on and after 12 o'clock midnight, August 2-3, 1935.

In witness whereof, The Department of Financial Institutions has caused this general order to be executed by its director and sealed with the seal of the department at Indianapolis in the State of Indiana this 2nd day of July, 1935.

The Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana, by R. A. McKinley, Director.

Attest: H. B. Wells, Secretary, Commission for Financial Institutions.

[fol. 44] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

ENTRY OF FILING AFFIDAVITS, ETC.—July 8, 1935

And the defendants also file affidavit No. 2 of Herman B. Wells and Edward A. Edwards, which affidavits are as follows: (H. I.)

Also file affidavit of Clarence A. Budd, which is as follows: (H. I.)

The hearing on the plaintiff's application for interlocutory injunction is extended to September 16, 1935 or until further order of this Court.

[fol. 45] ENTRY—Oct. 1, 1935

Comes now the plaintiff, by its solicitors, and files second affidavit of Milan V. Ayres, which is as follows: (H. I.)

[fol. 46] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

ENTRY OF FILING FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW—Oct. 2, 1935

This cause having come on to be heard and the parties having appeared by their respective counsel and offered evidence in support of their respective contentions and the court having heard the arguments of counsel and being now fully advised in the premises makes and files as a part of the record in said cause its findings of fact and states its conclusions of law thereon in the words and figures following:

[fol. 47] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

[Title omitted]

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW—Filed Oct. 2, 1935

1

General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc., complainant herein, is a stock corporation which was

organized in 1929 under the Indiana General Corporation Act to buy and deal in contract obligations and similar choses in action. Unless otherwise indicated herein, said corporation will be hereinafter referred to as G. M. A. C. The principal office and place of business of G. M. A. C. are in the City of Indianapolis, State of Indiana, and a branch is maintained in each of the cities of Ft. Wayne and [fol. 48] South Bend, in the State of Indiana. G. M. A. C. succeeded, upon its organization, to the Indiana assets and business of General Motors Acceptance Corporation of New York which, since 1925, had been engaged in Indiana in the same business as is now conducted by G. M. A. C.

The defendant, Paul V. McNutt, is the duly elected, qualified and acting Governor of the State of Indiana, and is a resident of the City of Indianapolis, in the Southern District of said state.

The defendant, Philip Lutz, is the duly elected, qualified and acting Attorney General of the State of Indiana, and is a resident of the City of Indianapolis in the Southern District thereof.

The defendant, Richard A. McKinley, is the duly appointed Director of The Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana, and is a resident of the City of Jeffersonville in the Southern District thereof.

The defendants, Oscar P. Welborn, Harvey B. Hartsock, C. M. Setser, Myron Gray and Robert Batton, are the duly appointed members of the Commission for Financial Institutions of said State, the said Welborn and Hartsock residing at Indianapolis, in the Southern District thereof, the said Setser residing at Columbus in the Southern District thereof, the said Gray and Batton residing respectively at Muncie and Marion in the Northern District thereof.

The defendant, Herbert M. Spencer, is the duly elected, qualified and acting Prosecuting Attorney of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana, wherein complainant's principal place of business is situate, and [fol. 49] resides at Indianapolis in the Southern District of Indiana.

General Motors Corporation is a corporation engaged in manufacturing many and diverse products, including automobiles, electric refrigerators and the like.

2

G. M. A. C.'s business is exclusively with retail sellers appointed by General Motors Corporations or any of its divisions for the retail sales of the products manufactured by General Motors Corporation. G. M. A. C. does business with approximately 500 such retail sellers in Indiana. A majority of the retail sellers with whom it does business are retail sellers of automobiles, and the remaining retail sellers sell either electric refrigerators or electric heating equipment or appliances such as vacuum cleaners which are manufactured by General Motors Corporation. Sometimes herein retail sellers will be referred to as dealers and the terms are used interchangeably.

3

G. M. A. C.'s business consists of purchasing from such dealers contracts covering retail sale and purchase on the instalment plan of automobiles and other General Motors products. Most of the instalment sale contracts purchased by G. M. A. C. from dealers involve purchases where the cash price would be less than $1500.00 and they provide for the retention of a security interest in the goods sold.

4

G. M. A. C. buys instalment sale contracts from the dealers after they have sold goods and consummated the time [fol. 50] sale transactions represented by the conditional sale contracts executed by the dealers and the retail buyers. G. M. A. C. has no dealings or relations with any retail buyers of cars or other General Motors products until after it has purchased the retail instalment sale contract from the dealer. It then proceeds, as assignee and purchaser thereof, to collect from the retail buyer the unpaid balance of the time sale price according to the terms and provisions of the retail contract acquired by it.

5

A dealer or retail seller is under no compulsion or obligation, contractual or otherwise, to sell or offer to sell instalment sale contracts to G. M. A. C., nor is the latter obligated to buy any. Dealers with whom it does business are free, as best suits their own interests, either to

hold and handle such contracts themselves or to sell them to G. M. A. C. or to some other company in the same or similar business as G. M. A. C., or otherwise dispose of or deal with them. Not all General Motors dealers in Indiana sell their instalment sale contracts to G. M. A. C., and those dealers which do business with G. M. A. C. do not sell all of their contracts to it. By the same token, G. M. A. C. does not purchase all the retail instalment sale contracts offered to it by dealers for purchase.

A retail seller appointed by General Motors Corporation to sell its manufactured products is always free to make such terms with retail buyers as the retail seller desires, but G. M. A. C. may refuse, and from time to time has [fol. 51] refused, to purchase contracts from retail sellers as unacceptable on the ground, for example, that the contract offered to it for purchase does not evidence an initial down payment by the retail buyer to the retail seller sufficient to vest the retail buyer with a substantial paid-in interest in the goods, and that information concerning his financial position does not demonstrate sufficient ability on his part to pay the instalments of the price and support the purchase of the goods.

6

The arrangements under which G. M. A. C. does business with dealers is that such purchases of retail instalment contracts as it makes from them are subject to and governed by the terms and conditions of the G. M. A. C. retail plan, a copy of which is supplied to each dealer interested in offering such contracts for purchase.

The G. M. A. C. retail plan is the name given by complainant to describe the business of purchasing retail instalment contracts from retail sellers covering sales made to customers, in which the terms, time prices and credit standing of the customer are satisfactory to G. M. A. C. Under this plan both new and used car instalment contracts are purchased.

The G. M. A. C. retail plan not only includes the terms and conditions, restrictions and limitations under which the retail instalment contracts are purchased from dealers and the relative rights of the parties in the transaction, but also suggests the statesmanship procedure to be used in negotiating instalment sales, the manner in which the sales

should be closed, the use of the payment charts, the investi-
[fol. 52] gation of the customer's credit statement, and the manner in which the contract arising out of the retail instalment sale may be sold to G. M. A. C.

Under the G. M. A. C. retail plan the retail seller, in the event he or it desires to submit the retail instalment contract to G. M. A. C. for purchase, assigns and guarantees the retail instalment contract to G. M. A. C. in accordance with the terms of an assignment and guaranty printed on the contract supplied to the retail seller by G. M. A. C. This form is designated on the contract as "Dealer's Recommendation, Assignment and Guaranty". In the event the terms of the contract and other matters relating thereto are satisfactory to G. M. A. C., the contract will be purchased by it at a price agreed upon by the parties, usually an amount equal to the unpaid balance owing on the contract less the differential which has been added in accordance with the time payment charts supplied by G. M. A. C.

The assignment and guaranty are modified as to the retail seller's liability in accordance with the terms of the G. M. A. C. retail plan relating to dealer protection and reserve. Under the terms of the plan relating to dealer protection and reserve, the retail seller will be protected against liability or loss, as the case may be, on contracts purchased by G. M. A. C. subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) G. M. A. C. agrees that the dealer will be relieved of responsibility on his guaranty in any instance where the repossessed car is not returned to the dealer.

(2) G. M. A. C. agrees that the dealer will be relieved of his responsibility on his guaranty in the event of conversion
[fol. 53] or embezzlement of cars by customers, such conversion to be existent when (a) it is determined that a car has been wrongfully sold, mortgaged, converted or embezzled, or (b) that a car can not be located and returned to the retail seller within ninety days after the date of default by the customer.

(3) G. M. A. C. agrees that the dealer will be relieved of his responsibility on his guaranty in the event cars are confiscated by Federal, state or municipal authorities and

the cars are not recovered and returned to the dealer within ninety days after default by the customer.

(4) G. M. A. C. agrees that the dealer will be relieved of his responsibility on his guaranty, in the instances hereinafter detailed, to the extent of collision losses suffered wherever repossession occurs as a direct result of a proven collision and when the re-sale value of the car after collision is less than the unpaid balance on the retail instalment contract. This protection is given (a) on used cars with unpaid balances less than $130 where specific collision insurance has not been provided the customer and dealer, (b) on those transactions where collision insurance may have been waived on agreement with the G. M. A. C. branch, (c) on losses which may arise from the deductible under the specific collision insurance.

G. M. A. C. during all times herein mentioned provided the retail sellers appointed by General Motors Corporation with forms of retail instalment contracts known as "Conditional Sale Contract" to be used by such retail sellers in instalment sales, which form is as follows:

(Here follows 1 photo, side folio 54.)

ORIGINAL

CONDITIONAL SALE CONTRACT

Contract Number _____

The undersigned seller hereby sells, and the undersigned purchaser or purchasers, jointly and severally hereby purchase(s), subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, the following property, complete with standard attachments and equipment, delivery and acceptance of which is hereby acknowledged by purchaser, viz:

	New or Used	Year Model	No. Cyl.	Make Trade Name	Type of Body If Truck, Give Tonnage	Model Letter or Number	Motor No.	Manufacturer's Serial No.
ONE								

RADIO—Make_____ Model_____ Serial No._____

For a **total time price** of $_____(9)_____, payable as follows: $_____(5)_____ **on or before delivery,** leaving a **deferred balance** of $_____(8)_____ payable at the offices of General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Incorporated to be hereafter designated **in instalments of** $_____(7A)_____ on the same day of each successive month, or as indicated in schedule of instalments below, and commencing_____19____; and the final instalment payable hereunder shall equal the amount of the deferred balance remaining due. Interest is due on instalments after maturity at the highest lawful contract rate, and if this contract be placed with an attorney for collection, 15% of the amount due hereunder as attorney's fees, or if prohibited, the amount permitted by law.

Schedule for unequal monthly instalments

$_____1 Mo. hereafter
$_____2 Mos. hereafter
$_____3 Mos. hereafter
$_____4 Mos. hereafter
$_____5 Mos. hereafter
$_____6 Mos. hereafter
$_____7 Mos. hereafter
$_____8 Mos. hereafter
$_____9 Mos. hereafter
$_____10 Mos. hereafter
$_____11 Mos. hereafter
$_____12 Mos. hereafter
$_____ _____
$_____ _____
$_____ _____
$_____ _____
$_____ _____
$_____ _____

1. Title to said property shall not pass to purchaser until said amount is fully paid in cash.
2. No transfer, renewal, extension or assignment of this contract or any interest thereunder, or loss, injury or destruction of said property shall release purchaser from his obligation hereunder; assignee shall be entitled to all the rights of seller.
3. In the event purchaser defaults on any payment due on this contrast or fails to comply with any condition of this contract or a proceeding in bankruptcy, receivership or insolvency be instituted against the purchaser or his property, or seller deems the property in danger of misuse or confiscation, the full amount shall be immediately due and payable; the seller's acceptance, after the full amount may have become immediately due and payable as hereinbefore provided, of any instalment or payment shall not be deemed to alter or affect the purchaser's obligations and/or the seller's rights hereunder with respect to any subsequent payments or default therein.
4. No warranties, expressed or implied, representations, promises or statements have been made by seller unless endorsed hereon in writing.
5. Purchaser shall keep said property free of all taxes, liens and encumbrances; shall not use same illegally, improperly or for hire; shall not remove same from the state without permission of the holder of this contract; shall not transfer any interest in this contract or said property. Any sum of money paid by the seller in payment or discharge of taxes, liens and encumbrances on said property shall be secured by and under this contract. The proceeds of any insurance, whether paid by reason of loss, injury, return premium or otherwise, shall be applied toward the replacement of the property or payment of this obligation, at the option of seller. Seller may insure said property against fire and theft, or any accidental physical damage to the car to protect purchaser, seller or seller's assignee. Purchaser agrees to pay the premium upon demand and that on failure to do so, payment of said premium shall be secured by this contract.
6. Time is of the essence of this contract, and if purchaser default in complying with the terms hereof, or seller deems the property in danger of misuse or confiscation, seller or any sheriff or other officer of the law may take immediate possession of said property without demand (possession after default being unlawful), including any equipment or accessories thereto; and for this purpose seller may enter upon the premises where said property may be and remove same. Seller shall retain all payments made by the purchaser prior to repossession hereunder. Seller may resell said property, so retaken, at public or private sale, without demand for performance, with or without notice to purchaser (if given, notice by mail to address below being sufficient), with or without having such property at place of sale, and upon such terms and in such manner as seller may determine; seller may bid at any public sale. From proceeds of any such sale, seller shall deduct all expenses for retaking, repairing and selling such property, including a reasonable attorney's fee. The balance thereof shall be applied to amount due; any surplus shall be paid over to purchaser; in case of deficiency purchaser shall pay the same with interest. Seller may take possession of any other property in the above described motor vehicle at time of repossession and hold same temporarily for purchaser without liability on the part of seller.
7. Seller shall have the right to enforce one or more remedies hereunder, successively or concurrently. Purchaser hereby waives the right to remove any legal action from the court originally acquiring jurisdiction and waives all homestead and other property exemption laws. Any provision of this contract prohibited by law of any state shall as to said state be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition without invalidating the remaining provisions of the contract.

Executed in triplicate, one copy of which was delivered to and retained by purchaser, **this**_____**day of**_____, **19**____
(Do not date on Sunday)

Purchaser Signs _____ (Purchaser's Signature) _____ (Title, if Company) _____ (Street) _____ (Town) _____ (State)

Seller Signs _____ (Seller's Signature) _____ (Title, if Company) _____ (Street) _____ (Town) _____ (State)

_____ (Witness) **SIGN IN INK** _____ (Witness)

DEALER'S RECOMMENDATION, ASSIGNMENT AND GUARANTY

TO GENERAL MOTORS ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION OF INDIANA, INCORPORATED:

For value received, undersigned does hereby sell, assign and transfer to the General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc., his, its or their right, title and interest in and to the within contract, herewith submitted for purchase by it, and the property covered thereby and authorizes said General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc. to do every act and thing necessary to collect and discharge the same.

The undersigned certifies that said contract arose from the sale of the within described property, warranting that title to said property was at time of sale and is now vested in the undersigned free of all liens and encumbrances; that said property is as represented to the purchaser of said property by the undersigned and that statements made by the purchaser of said property on the statement form attached hereto are true to the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned.

In consideration of your purchase of the within contract, undersigned guarantees payment of the full amount remaining unpaid hereon, and covenants if default be made in payment of any instalment herein to pay the full amount then unpaid to General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc. upon demand, except as otherwise provided by the terms of the present General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc. Retail Plan. Liability of the undersigned shall not be affected by any settlement, extensions, variation of terms of the within contract effected with, or by the discharge or release of the obligation of, the purchaser or any other person interested, by operation of law or otherwise. Undersigned waives notice of acceptance of this guaranty and notices of non-payment and non-performance.

Seller Signs _____ (Seller's Signature) _____ (Title, if Company)

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50A

GUARANTY

In consideration of the making of the within contract by the dealer therein, the undersigned does hereby guarantee to said dealer, or any assignee, of said contract, payment of all deferred payments as specified therein and covenants in default of payment of any instalment or performance of any requirement thereof by purchaser to pay full amount remaining unpaid upon demand. The liability of the undersigned shall not be affected by any settlement, extensions, variation of terms of the within contract effected with, or by the discharge or release of the obligation of, the purchaser or any other person interested, by operation of law or otherwise. Notice of acceptance of this guaranty, notices of non-payment and non-performance, notices of amount of indebtedness outstanding at any time, protests, demands, and prosecution of collection, foreclosure and possessory remedies, and the right to remove any legal action from the court originally acquiring jurisdiction, are hereby expressly waived.

WITNESS:

_____

(Guarantor)

_____

(Address)

[fol. 55] Along with the form of contract supplied as in the preceding paragraph set forth, G. M. A. C. supplied the retail sellers with a form of work sheet which is as follows:

(Here follows 1 photo, side folio 56.)

...TED IN U.S.A.

SUBMIT CONTRACT AND THIS FORM TO GMAC

DEALER'S WORK SHEET

(DEALER FILLS IN BEFORE COMPLETING CONTRACT)

...RIPTION OF TRADE-IN:

...MODEL ... YEAR ...

...R NO. ... SERIAL NO. ...

...RACT HAS BEEN FILED OR RECORDED IN:

... ON ... 19 ...
CITY OR COUNTY TOWNSHIP MONTH DAY

... CAR BE USED FOR LIVERY AND RENTING . . . . . { YES ☐ NO ☐

...ED CAR—CAR WAS TAKEN IN T...DE FROM:

... NAME ... ADDRESS

... 19 ... IN THE SALE OF A GENERAL MOTORS CAR FOR WHICH ... WAS ALLOWED AND $ ... SPENT IN RECONDITIONING AS FOLLOWS:

... COMMERCIAL CAR—NATURE OF WORK IN WHICH CAR WILL BE USED ...

...RACT COVERS—

...CHASSIS ONLY ☐; CHASSIS AND CAB ☐; CHASSIS, CAB AND BODY ☐.

CASH DELIVERED PRICE . . . . . (1) $ ...

TERRITORY AMOUNT—CHART NO. ... (DO NOT FILL IN WHEN SIMPLIFIED CHART IS USED) . . . . . (2) $ ...

FILING OR RECORDING FEE . . . . . (3) $ ...

BASIC TIME PRICE (*Add 1, 2 and 3*) . . . . . (4) $ ...

DOWN PAYMENT $ ... (*Net Trade-In*) PLUS $ ... (*Actual Cash*) . . (5) $ ... ★

UNPAID BALANCE (*Subtract 5 from 4*) . . . . . (6) $ ...

TIME PRICE DIFFERENTIAL—CHART NO. ... . . (7) $ ...

AMOUNT OF CONTRACT (*Add 6 and 7*) . . . . . (8) $ ... ★

TOTAL TIME PRICE (*Add 5 and 8*) . . . . . (9) $ ... ★

COLLISION DEDUCTIBLE $ ... NO. OF MOS. ... INSTALMENTS $ ... ★

7A

EXTRA EQUIPMENT, IF ANY, INCLUDED IN ITEM 1.

RADIO $ ... OTHER EQUIPMENT $ ...

FILL IN RADIO SECTION OF CONTRACT

☞ *IMPORTANT—Copy the Four Figures Marked with ★ on Contract*

DEALER SIGNS ☞ ...

DATE ... 19 ... BY ... (TITLE, IF COMPANY)

FOR USE BY GMAC ONLY

PURCHASER GRADING

BEFORE INVESTIGATION	GMAC G	F	P
...CURRENT EARNINGS			
...PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT			
...RESERVE ASSETS			
...IF COMMERCIAL VEHICLE—EARNINGS			
...DOWN PAYMENTS—PURCHASER EQUITY			
...IF USED CAR—MARKET VALUE			
...DATES OF PAYMENTS CONFORMING WITH DATES AND AMOUNTS OF INCOME			
...FINAL GRADE			
AFTER INVESTIGATION			
...TRADE OPINIONS FOR REPUTATION MEETING OBLIGATIONS PROMPTLY			
...REPUTATION—CHARACTER			
...CONSENSUS OF OPINION—CHECKING AGENCIES			
...FINAL GRADE			

PREVIOUS PURCHASER EXPERIENCE CONTRACT NO.

CAR RELEASED

GUARANTOR

SIGNATURE O. K.

EXCESS BALANCE SHORT $

EXCESS TERMS NO. MOS.

MANAGEMENT APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE

AMOUNT OF CONTRACT . . . . . $ ...

DIFFERENTIAL . . . . . $ ...

RECORDING FEE . . . . . $ ... $ ... $ ...

DEDUCTION ACCT. NO. ... . $ ...

DEDUCTION ACCT. NO. ... . $ ...

CHECK NO. ... AND AMOUNT . . . . . $ ...

$ ... UNPAID BALANCE DIFFERENTIAL . . . . . $ ...

32-5 . . . . . $ ...

32-5 . . . . . $ ...

$ ... 32-5 REC. FEE . . . . . $ ...

$ ... 35-1 . . . . . $ ... $ ...

32-3 . . . . . $ ...

GMAC REMARKS

DEALER NO.	% D. P.	EST. VALUE	COLL.	TERM	DUE	IRREG.	CLASS & UNIT

PROOF OF PAYMENTS

PAYMENTS STARTING ...

/ ● —

● —

● —

● —

TOTAL $

GMAC APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE ... DATE ... 19

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MAC 130

CUSTOMER'S STATEMENT

MAKE OF CAR	MODEL	YEAR	NEW ☐	USED ☐	CASH DELIVERED PRICE . . . . $
DESCRIPTION OF TRADE-IN			MOTOR NO.		NET TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE $
MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	SERIAL NO.		CASH DOWN . . . . $
APD. INSURANCE ☐	NO. OF MONTHS		INSTALMENTS $		TOTAL DOWN PAYMENT . . . . $
DEALER	NAME		ADDRESS		UNPAID BALANCE . . . . $

CUSTOMER'S FULL NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	SUR-NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	COLOR	MARRIED ☐ NO. OF DEPENDENTS
HOME ADDRESS	STREET	APT. NO.	CITY	COUNTY	LIVED AT ADDRESS HOW LONG.....YEARS.....MONTHS	PHONE NO.
IF RENTING NAME OF LANDLORD					ADDRESS	
PREVIOUS ADDRESS	STREET		CITY	STATE	LIVED AT ADDRESS HOW LONG.....YEARS.....MONTHS	
EMPLOYED BY	SELF ☐ OTHERS ☐	FIRM NAME			EMPLOYED HOW LONG.....YEARS.....MONTHS	PHONE NO.
BUSINESS ADDRESS	STREET		CITY	STATE	DEPARTMENT	BADGE NO.
OCCUPATION OR TRADE					TRADE UNION NAME AND NUMBER	CITY
MONTHLY INCOME $	SALARY ☐ COMMISSION ☐	DATE RECEIVED	MOST CONVENIENT DATE FOR MAKING PAYMENTS		OTHER INCOME $..... DESCRIBE	
PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED BY	FIRM NAME AND ADDRESS				OCCUPATION OR TRADE	EMPLOYED HOW LONG.....YEARS.....MONTHS
BANK WITH					ADDRESS	CHECKING ☐ SAVINGS ☐
LIFE INSURANCE	NAME OF COMPANY				ADDRESS WHERE PREMIUM PAYABLE	
WIFE'S NEAREST RELATIVE, NOT LIVING WITH ME	NAME				ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP
MY NEAREST RELATIVE, NOT LIVING WITH ME	NAME				ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP

REFERENCES: BUSINESS HOUSES AND INDIVIDUALS WITH WHOM I (WE) HAVE HAD CREDIT OR INSTALMENT DEALINGS

	NAME	ADDRESS
PURCHASED LAST CAR FROM		
FINANCE COMPANY		
BUSINESS REFERENCE		
PERSONAL REFERENCE		
PERSONAL REFERENCE		

I (WE) OWN THE FOLLOWING REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT

STREET	CITY	STATE	TOTAL CASH VALUE	TOTAL ENCUMBRANCE	TITLE IN NAME OF

ADDRESS OF GARAGE WHERE CAR WILL BE KEPT

LICENSE No. STATE

DRIVER'S LICENSE No.

DEALER REMARKS

UNDERSIGNED WARRANTS THE TRUTH AND ACCURACY OF FOREGOING INFORMATION

CUSTOMER SIGNS ☞ _____

SALESMAN SIGNS ☞ _____ DATE.....19.....

5211

[fol. 57] That certain small numerals appearing on the right-hand side of the work sheet correspond with the same small numerals appearing at the blanks in the conditional sale contract, and indicate to the retail seller the amount which should be filled in in the corresponding blanks in the contract, if the said contract is to be offered to G. M. A. C. for purchase.

7

In furtherance of its said retail plan and in anticipation of the offering of such contracts to it for purchase thereunder, G. M. A. C. equips dealers, as a convenience to them, with certain material for the purpose of facilitating and expediting the sale and purchase of the dealers' installment sale contracts. For example, it furnishes, free of charge to the dealers, the form of retail contract of conditional sale for use by them in contemplation of purchase by G. M. A. C. and representing the type of contract, as holder thereof after purchase, G. M. A. C. considers most suitable for the protection of its interests.

8

Similarly, G. M. A. C. furnishes the dealer with rate or payment charts designed for new and used cars in the case of retail sellers of automobiles. By means of these charts the dealer, after he has ascertained the amount of the down payment which will be paid by the retail buyer on delivery of the car, and the number of instalments into which the retail buyer wishes the remainder of the price to be divided, [fol. 58] and the type of car to be purchased is enabled to determine quickly and accurately the amount to be inserted in the contract provided by G. M. A. C. at the place designated "total time price" and indicated in the contract by the number (9) which corresponds to the same figure on the work sheet provided to the dealer by G. M. A. C. It is not necessary for the dealer to follow the forms provided by G. M. A. C. or to compute the total time price in the manner suggested by G. M. A. C. in its charts, or to fill out the retail instalments contract blanks according to the computations indicated in the work sheet provided by G. M. A. C., unless the dealer expects to offer the retail instalment contract to G. M. A. C. for purchase at a price, indicated in the chart as the unpaid balance of retail seller's price on a cash

sale, which price, together with the down payment received from the retail buyer, enables the retail seller, in the event G. M. A. C. purchases the contract in any instance, to realize out of the two transactions a total amount equal to his price for a cash sale.

9

G. M. A. C. is not a party to the instalment sale transaction or contract between the dealer and the retail buyer and it has and acquires no interest therein unless and until the contract is offered to and purchased by G. M. A. C. from the dealer. The dealer may add whatever amount he desires in arriving at or fixing his or its time price to the retail buyer.

The practice of all retail sellers, who sell automobiles by means of retail instalment contracts, is to compute the time price according to the rate or payment charts and other [fol. 59] memoranda or data provided by the finance company to which the retail seller usually offers retail instalment contracts for sale, and this is usually true even though the retail seller intends to keep the contract.

10

If G. M. A. C. accepts and purchases such retail contracts from dealers, it takes over from the latter and assumes numerous duties and tasks involved in the ownership acquired in the contracts from dealers by setting up an account for each of them and handling the collection of the instalments payable under the contracts, court proceedings and repossession of the property. For those purposes G. M. A. C. maintains an extensive office organization, equipment and personnel engaged in carrying on the various functions of its business in buying acceptable contracts, collecting same and protecting its investment therein. G. M. A. C. performs such functions at considerable items of cost and expense, including salaries aggregating approximately $150,000 per annum for an average of eighty-five employees, rent, cost of borrowing money for the supplying of capital necessary to enable it to maintain a volume of new business, organization expenses and the like.

11

Out of the differential or discount at which G. M. A. C. purchases a retail instalment contract from a retail seller,

G. M. A. C. may purchase and pay for a policy of insurance protecting the buyer and G. M. A. C. against loss to the property by fire, theft, accident, physical damage and, in [fol. 60] most cases, collision. Such insurance coverage is provided in fulfillment of the retail seller's representation to the retail buyer that the time price includes insurance coverage to be purchased by the retail seller, or if the retail instalment contract is to be sold to it, by G. M. A. C. without expense to the retail buyer. If the insurance is purchased by G. M. A. C., a certificate of insurance for which it pays is sent to the retail buyer by G. M. A. C.

12

In addition to the cost and expense of handling and collection of the contracts purchased from the dealers and repossession of the property whenever necessary, G. M. A. C. assumes, under the terms and provisions of its retail plan governing such contracts as it may purchase, all risk of loss resulting from its inability to collect from the retail buyer any part of the unpaid price obligation under the contract bought from the dealer and resulting from its inability to reposses the property either because the latter has been put out of its reach or for some other reason. When the dealer sells a contract to G. M. A. C., the assignment and transfer of it contains the dealer's guaranty of the retail buyer's payment of the contract obligation, but the dealer's contingent liability thereunder is limited by the terms and conditions of the G. M. A. C. retail plan, under the heading of Dealer Protection and Reserve, so that the dealer incurs no liability as a consequence of the retail buyer's failure to pay the balance of the price, except when G. M. A. C. effects repossession of the property and delivers it to the dealer.

[fol. 61] 13

In those cases where the property is repossessed and turned over to the dealer on the latter's payment of the unpaid balance of the price, the dealer may or may not sustain a loss, depending on the resale value of the property as compared with the amount the dealer may have to pay G. M. A. C. The risk of loss under these circumstances remains with and is borne by the dealer.

14

In recognition of the retail seller's risk of such loss and his or its continued responsibility for such loss factor, the arrangement between the retail seller and G. M. A. C. provides that if G. M. A. C. purchases an instalment contract, it will protect the dealer against the loss hazard referred to in Finding No. 13 by setting up and crediting a reserve account in the dealer's favor with a stipulated portion of G. M. A. C.'s differential in the price paid by it to the retail seller on the purchase of the contract. G. M. A. C. makes payments to the retail seller out of the accumulated reserve fund from time to time.

G. M. A. C.'s experience over many years shows a normal of between three and seven repossessions of new cars out of every 100 financed, depending on the retail seller and the territory covered. On used cars the number of repossessions varies between 7 and 15, depending on the retail seller's used car policies and the territory covered. Whether a loss is suffered by the retail seller in the event of a repossession depends upon the resale value of the merchandise. The amount of the reserve which G. M. A. C. agrees to set aside for the retail seller is calculated upon the basis of its [fol. 62] experience and that of dealers in all sections of the country, and is so fixed, in the opinion of G. M. A. C., as to be sufficient, in the case of the average dealer, to cover all losses and provide an additional margin over losses in excess of the actual loss experience.

15

Not less than 140 companies in the State of Indiana are engaged in the business of purchasing retail instalment sales contracts from retail sellers covering sales made to their customers on the instalment plan. The method of doing and carrying on the business is essentially identical with the method and manner in which G. M. A. C. carries on its business, except as pointed out in Finding No. 17 and except that many of the 140 finance companies are not affiliated directly or indirectly with any manufacturer of merchandise, and do not refrain from doing business with any retail seller whatever merchandise he may be selling, if the contracts offered to such finance companies by such retail sellers are satisfactory as to terms and conditions. Each of the finance companies engaged in the business in Indiana

maintain an office organization, equipment and personnel to carry on its functions in the business in which it is engaged, sets up an account for the retail contracts purchased by them. Each of the finance companies takes the foregoing elements into consideration as well as other costs of doing business, including cost of capital, cost of insurance and profit, in determining the differential or discount of the finance company for purchasing the contracts.

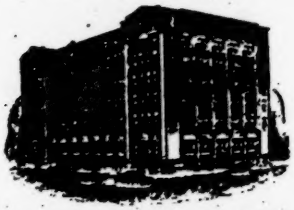
[fol. 63] 16

Most of the finance companies doing business in Indiana, as well as G. M. A. C., furnish rate or payment charts, forms of contracts, work sheets and similar data to retail sellers generally, in the same manner that like material is furnished to General Motors Corporation's retail sellers by G. M. A. C. One rate chart in use in Indiana is as follows:

(Here follow 2 photos, side folios 64 and 64½)

Automobile Retail Plan

For New Cars Only



HOW TO USE PLAN

EXAMPLE:

Delivered Price	$900
Down Payment	300
Unpaid Balance	$600

Under Unpaid Balance Column you will find $600, follow line to right for number of months and size of payments desired. If 12 months is desired the payments will be $55.00 each; 24 months, $30.70 etc.

No charges on deferred payments if purchaser pays on or before maturity. If not so paid necessary collection charges are added.

DOWN PAYMENT

MUST BE CASH OR TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE

MINIMUM DOWN PAYMENT: 33⅓% OF THE CASH SELLING PRICE.

INSURANCE

CUSTOMARY COVERAGE

Fire and Theft Insurance—80% of Cash Selling Price.

For maximum insurance protection when the Down Payment is more than 66⅔%, add ⅓ of 1% of the Cash Selling Price to the amount of the note.

This rate sheet has been carefully prepared as a guide to sound financing, after investigating automobile time sales methods and rates throughout the United States and is distributed for the convenience and benefit of automobile dealers.

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Associates Investment Company

Executive Offices

ASSOCIATES BLDG. SOUTH BEND, IND.

E. M. Morris, President Lew Fleming, Secretary

Akron, O., 1002 First Central Trust Bldg.
Ann Arbor, Mich., 411 First National Bank Bldg.
Battle Creek, Mich., 316 City Nat'l Bank & Trust Bldg.
Canton, O., 1101-02 Gen. D. Harter Bank Bldg.
Cleveland, O., 401 Union Bldg.
Detroit, Mich., 616 Macomber Bldg.
Elkhart, Ind., Room 1-2, 301 South Main St.
Flint, Mich., 1106 Union Industrial Bank Bldg.
Ft. Wayne, Ind., 545 Old First Bank Bldg.
Gary, Ind., 444 Gary State Bank Bldg.
Grand Rapids, Mich., 409 Ass'n of Commerce Bldg.
Hammond, Ind., 517 First Trust Bldg.
Indianapolis, Ind., 418 Medical Arts Bldg.
Jackson, Mich., 701 Central State Bank Bldg.
Kalamazoo, Mich., 401 Peck Bldg.
Lansing, Mich., 400 Mutual Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minn., 506-507 Wesley Temple Bldg.
Muncie, Ind., 302 Western Reserve Bldg.
Muskegon, Mich., 422 Lyman Bldg.
Pontiac, Mich., 400 Pontiac Cent'l Bank Bldg.
Port Huron, Mich., 272 W. S. Savings Bank Bldg.
Saginaw, Mich., 434 Building & Loan Bldg.
Toledo, O., 310-321 Richardson Bldg.
Washington, D. C., 839 Tower Bldg.
Youngstown, Ohio, 1114 Mahoning Bank Bldg.

ASSOCIATES DISCOUNT CO.

Albany, N. Y., 711 Home Savings Bank Bldg.
Binghamton, N. Y., 702 Security Mutual Life Bldg.
Buffalo, N. Y., 310 Vare Building
Jamestown, N. Y., 204-206 The Bank of Jamestown Bldg.
Niagara Falls, N. Y., 201 N. F. Trust Co. Bldg.
Rochester, N. Y., 34 State St.
St. Louis, Mo., 416 Missouri Theatre Bldg.
Syracuse, N. Y., 600 State Tower Bldg.

ASSOCIATES INVESTMENT CO. of Illinois

Chicago, Ill., 901 Lake Shore Trust and Sav. Bank Bldg.
Erie, Pa., 502 Erie Trust Bldg.
Milwaukee, Wis., 601 Milwaukee Gas Light Co. Bldg.
Philadelphia, Pa., 906 Stacdt Bldg.
Springfield, Ill., 420 Baltch Bldg.

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RETAIL TIME SALES PLAN FOR NEW CARS ONLY

Unpaid Balance Column	Schedule of Monthly Installments and Total Amount of Note							
When the Unpaid Bal. is	12 Monthly Installments		10 Monthly Installments		8 Monthly Installments		6 Monthly Installments	
	Each	Amount of Note	Each	Amount of Note	Each	Amount of Note	Each	Amount of Note

[fol. 65] In their essentials the forms of contract and other material furnished to the retail seller by the finance companies other than G. M. A. C. are not different from those furnished to General Motors Corporation's retail sellers by G. M. A. C. The form of contract generally provides for a total time price to be paid by the retail buyer, the division of the unpaid balance of the purchase price into instalments, and the retention of a security interest by the retail seller in the merchandise sold.

The rate charts which are furnished to the retail seller by the finance companies are so set up that the amount of the finance charge can be computed on any conceivable dollar basis that remains after the purchaser is given credit for the amount of his down payment against the cash sale price of the merchandise purchased, and after the length of time for payment has been determined by the parties. Some finance companies have many different rate charts for the same new car as well as for old ones.

17

The principal difference between the various finance companies doing business in Indiana, including G. M. A. C., so far as their methods of doing business are concerned, is in the terms and conditions under which they purchase retail instalment contracts from retail sellers. Some companies purchase these contracts on a "with recourse" basis, others purchase on a "without recourse" basis, and still others, including G. M. A. C., purchase on what is known as a "with repurchase" basis.

The terms "without recourse" and "with recourse" have a definite meaning to retail sellers and complainant and in the finance business. The first means that the fi- [fol. 66] nance company is to accept the retail instalment contract which it may purchase from the retail seller without any right whatsoever against him as the assignor thereof or otherwise in the event the purchaser of the automobile defaults in his obligations under the conditional sale contract. In the event of default the finance company suffers whatever loss there may be. The term "with recourse" on the other hand means that dealer will perform the obligations of the buyer in the event the latter defaults, and the result is that when a default occurs the dealer must pay the finance company the unpaid balance

owing by the purchaser at the time of the default and takes the merchandise together with the losses or gains, as the case may be. Few finance companies do business wholly in one way or the other. Part of their business is taken with recourse and part without recourse, depending upon the credit factors involved. Other companies operate on neither plan, but upon a combination of the two whereunder the loss hazard is divided between the dealer and the finance company to which he has assigned his retail instalment contracts. The latter plan is followed by G. M. A. C. and is known in the trade as "with repurchase".

Under the G. M. A. C. retail plan payment of the unpaid balance owed by the buyer is requested from the dealer when the repossessed automobile is returned to him, but arrangements may be made by the dealer to extend this request for payment until a buyer has been found for the automobile with a maximum period of thirty days from the date of repossession allowed.

[fol. 67] 18

Every finance company and retail seller recognizes that losses will occur and to compensate the finance company as assignee of the retail installment contract and the retail seller as the original party thereto for such losses, there is included in the differential or discount fixed by the finance company in the rate or payment charts, an amount which may be set aside as a reserve for losses. This amount is included in the differential or discount irrespective of the type of assignment which the finance company requires from the retail seller. Out of the reserve the retail seller and finance company are compensated for losses which occur, and a division of the item may be made between them according to the proportion of the risk of loss borne by each. From time to time, G. M. A. C. advises the dealers with which it does business of the amount of the reserve which is being set up for their benefit out of the differential or discount at which G. M. A. C. purchased the contract.

19

In adding the time price differential or finance charge as it is sometimes known, the dealer may not know the amount which it would cost him to command the capital

necessary to carry on his business without the assistance of G. M. A. C. or other finance company, and he may not know the cost of collection or the cost of the loss hazard or other factors involved. Such dealer assumes that the factors considered by G. M. A. C. and other finance companies in making up the differential or discount shown on [fol. 68] their rate or payment charts are identical with factors which dealers would consider if constructing a time price differential. In the majority of instances the dealer sells his contracts because he would not have sufficient capital to carry on the same volume of business unless he sells the contracts to G. M. A. C. or other finance companies. He accepts and adds to the price of his merchandise, for the purpose of constructing the time price, the time price differential equal to the discount shown by the rate chart prepared by the various competing finance companies with whom he does business.

20

A number of other companies engaged in purchasing instalment sale contracts from dealers purchase such contracts from them on a "without recourse" basis, in which case the dealer, upon transfer of the contract, does not assume any liability or bear the risk of loss in respect of which the dealer selling the contract to G. M. A. C. under its retail plan is protected by said reserve. It is the practice and a part of the arrangement between such other companies and dealers from whom they purchase the contracts that the companies pay and the dealers receive an amount, known and designated variously and indiscriminately as Dealer's Bonus, or Participation, out of such other companies' differential.

21

The Department of Financial Institutions is a department of government of the State of Indiana created under [fol. 69] the Indiana Financial Institutions Act, Acts of the General Assembly 1933, Chapter 40, sections 1 and 4. The function of the Department is to supervise, regulate and control the business of banks, trust companies, building and loan associations and other credit agencies, as well as small loan licensees furnishing money in amounts of $300 or less. From the time it was established on July 1, 1933,

it received complaints from different persons directed against various types of financial institutions, including companies engaged in the same business in which G. M. A. C. is engaged, and because of the complaints and in pursuance of its power of investigation, the Department began a study of consumer credit agencies operating in Indiana, the result of which was contained in a report published and presented to the 79th Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, which report was entitled "Indiana Consumer Finance Agencies." The report was not limited simply to finance companies, but included all agencies theretofore under the supervision of the Department, in so far as those agencies and companies supplied credit to consumers, as well as instalment sellers who hold their own paper and companies engaged in the same business in which G. M. A. C. is engaged. A considerable portion of the report was devoted to finance companies and what the report characterized as their "effective rates of interest for the extension of credit", the desirable and undesirable features of the business, as well as the undesirable features of instalment selling by dealers who hold their own paper, and the recommendations of the Department for legislation to restrict the original contract between buyer and seller, as well as supervise finance companies.

[fol. 70] 22.

Prior to the enactment of the Retail Instalment Sales Act, the amount of the time price differential or discount was not generally shown as a separate item in the contract between the retail seller and retail buyer, but a sum total price for the merchandise known as "the total time price" included the time price differential. The time price differential was known popularly as "the finance charge." The amount of the finance charge was ascertainable by the retail buyer from the retail seller, or otherwise, by computing the same by deducting the unpaid balance of the cash price, after giving effect to the down payment to be made by the retail buyer, from the amount shown in the rate or payment chart for the corresponding unpaid balance. The finance charge was represented to include cost of insurance, but the actual cost of the insurance, as distinguished from the remaining part of the finance charge,

might not be known to the retail seller or to the betail buyer. Without knowing the insurance cost, the buyer could not compute the actual amount of the time price differential less the insurance cost in terms of interest.

The form of contract supplied to the retail seller by the finance company contemplated the sale of the merchandise at whatever price was agreed upon by the parties and that price was known as "the time price". No separate item appeared in the contract as the time price differential, and the said differential included in the total time price was not translated into percentage calculations based upon the unpaid cash balance.

[fol. 71] 23

The amount of the finance company's discount for purchasing a retail instalment sale contract varies in accordance with the character and type of the merchandise covered by the contract, and in accordance with other variable factors, such as the credit risk or loss hazard involved and the cost of collection; and similarly, the retail seller's time price varies, depending upon these variable factors. If it is new merchandise, such amounts are less, because the depreciation factor, if a sufficient down payment has been obtained, does not require as high a time price or discount for purchasing the contract. If the merchandise is used, the depreciation factor must be dealt with otherwise, and the amounts are relatively higher, and, likewise, if the credit risk or loss hazard is greater or the contemplated collection costs higher. The variation of said amounts for twenty companies in Indiana on the identical unpaid balance of three hundred dollars ($300.00) on the purchase on instalments of a new automobile ranged from $28.00 to $60.00 for one year. These amounts in terms of interest based upon the diminishing unpaid balance ranged from 18.7% to 44.4% per annum. On used automobiles for the same unpaid balance for the same period of time the amounts ranged from $35.00 to $85.20, and these amounts, in terms of interest similarly computed, ranged from 23.9% to 69% per annum. In the purchase of furniture generally these amounts on the average are higher. In the case of the purchase of radios, these amounts are higher than in the case of either of the other two commodities mentioned. In the case of the purchase of automobile tires, these

[fol. 72] amounts are in a still higher range. The range, expressed in terms of interest computed on the diminishing unpaid balance, is from 33.6% to 106.1% per annum.

The above amounts, as to both new and used automobiles, included the cost of insurance for the retail buyer. The types of insurance coverage, the cost of which was included in these various amounts, is not disclosed by the evidence, nor the amount of the coverage. Insurance costs vary in amount according to types of coverage, make of car, zone in which kept and amount for which insured, and this variable factor and the other variable factors mentioned above account for part of the variation in amounts, the extent of which can not be determined from the evidence.

The evidence does not disclose whether insurance for the retail buyer was included in the amounts mentioned above in terms of interest for the purchase of furniture, radios and for automobile tires. Instalment sales of automobile accessories, in which classification tires are included, amount to less than ½ of 1% of the total instalment sales in Indiana; instalment sales of radios, together with instalment sales of electric goods and refrigerators, amount to about 6½% of all instalment sales in Indiana, and instalment sales of furniture stores to approximately 13% thereof.

For a transaction in Indianapolis, Indiana, by a GMAC dealer, involving the sale of a new Chevrolet passenger car on instalments under a conditional sale contract, the amount of which contract was payable in twelve equal monthly instalments, and which contract GMAC purchased, the cash [fol. 73] delivered price of the car was $720.00. The down payment by the purchaser was $240.00, the cash balance remaining after giving effect to the down payment was $480.00, and the amount of the conditional sale contract signed by the purchaser (cash balance of $480.00 plus differential of $66.48) was $546.48. After deducting from the differential of $66.48 the manual cost of fire, theft, accidental physical damage and $25.00 deductible collision insurance amounting to $34.08, and after deducting the amount of the dealer's reserve of $7.57, the remainder of said $66.48, amounting to $24.83, in terms of interest, based on the diminishing balance of $546.48, amounted to 8.39 percent per annum.

For a transaction in Indianapolis, Indiana, by a GMAC dealer, involving the sale of a used Chevrolet passenger

car on instalments under a conditional sale contract, the amount of which contract was payable in twelve equal monthly instalments, and which contract GMAC purchased, the cash delivered price of the car was $500.00. The down payment by the purchaser was $170.00, the cash balance remaining after giving effect to the down payment was $330.00, and the amount of the conditional sale contract signed by the purchaser (cash balance of $330.00 plus differential of $60.96) was $390.96. After deducting from the differential of $60.96 the manual cost of fire, theft, accidental physical damage and $25.00 deductible collision insurance amounting to $29.08, and after deducting the amount of the dealer's reserve of $10.77, the remainder of said $60.96, amounting to $21.11, in terms of interest, based on the diminishing balance of $390.96, amounted to 9.97% per annum.

[fol. 74] The time price differential in each of the above cases is the actual amount shown in the GMAC charts for new passenger cars and used passenger cars, respectively, currently furnished to dealers in Chevrolet automobiles in the Indianapolis territory.

There are variations in the GMAC's payment charts, depending upon the make of car and the insurance zone in which the car is to be kept, but the foregoing illustrations are typical of the time price differentials which are generally made use of by retail sellers in arriving at the time prices at which they sell at retail new and used automobiles manufactured by General Motors Corporation or its divisions.

24

None of the factors other than insurance which are used by the finance companies to make up the differential or discount, and none of the factors which are used by retail sellers in making up the finance charge, are available to the State of Indiana or to the retail buyer for scrutiny. Neither the cost of capital, the cost of investigation, the cost of bookkeeping and other overhead expense, the cost of collection, the loss hazard and the depreciation factor, nor any other element which is a factor considered in making up the differential or discount and in making up the finance charge, is available.

25

The Department of Financial Institutions in its report to the Governor and the General Assembly, recommended that the cost of the credit extension, as the term is used in its [fol. 75] report, be separated from the cost of insurance and expressed in terms of a rate per cent per month based upon the diminishing unpaid balance of the price of the merchandise. This recommendation was made to give the retail buyer a comparative cost basis.

The finance companies had conducted their business of buying instalment contracts upon the basis of a flat charge by way of what was called discount.

26

The dealer's reserve is an allowance out of the differential or discount and is usually a certain percentage allowed the dealer on retail instalment contracts assigned by him. The reserve is contracted for between the dealer and the finance company, either by general blanket agreement or by agreement made at the time of the assignment of the particular contract. The theory underlying reserves is that there must be compensation for the loss hazard. The difference in loss hazard between new and used merchandise accounts for the larger reserve paid on transactions involving old merchandise.

27

The "rebate" is a name given to a practice engaged in by some finance companies, whereunder the finance company, by special agreement with the retail seller, furnishes him or it with its regularly authorized finance charges as printed on its rate or payment chart, but agrees to and pays the retail seller a certain amount in cash on each contract accepted by the finance company. The rebate is distinguished from the payment of a reserve out of an accumu- [fol. 76] lated fund by a "with recourse" or "with repurchase" company and from like payment of a bonus by "without recourse" companies and is paid and goes to the retail seller without any restrictions whatsoever. The evidence does not disclose the amounts paid as rebates.

28

To the extent that it exists at all, the "dealer's pack" exists only in the case of the instalment sale of automobiles. Automobile instalment sales in Indiana constitute more than 60% of all retail instalment sales. The "dealer's pack" does not exist in connection with the sale of those commodities, the sales of which constitute 40% of total retail instalment sales. The "dealer's pack" is an expression used to identify the amount which some retail sellers may feel justified in including in the time price to the retail buyer over and above the sum total of the "discount" which the finance company will receive after purchase of the contract plus the amount necessary to protect the retail seller on account of the recourse, if any, to which he is subject.

The practice is for the dealer to add to the finance charge an additional amount known as pack. The retail buyer is not informed as to what this item is, and may be led to believe that the whole amount added to the unpaid balance, including the pack, is retained by the finance company. In practice the finance company collects but does not retain the pack. The dealer collects the amount from the finance company at the time of the sale of the contract, or, in some instances, after the contract has been fully paid, the amount is credited to the reserve account of the dealer with the finance company. The common range of packs is from $10 [fol. 77] to $25, although in some instances it may reach $40 or more.

29

Whether the retail seller marks his cash price low and justifies his time price by the amount of the so-called finance charge which has been made larger by the amount of the "dealer's pack", or whether he marks his car with a high cash price and makes the so-called finance charge low, the result is the same; the total time price which must be obtained from the retail buyer for the car is the same in both cases and the "dealer's pack" represents only a difference in the retail seller's selling policies.

Any rebate or bonus paid to the dealer likewise increases the time price to the buyer.

30

Forms of contracts supplied to retail sellers by finance companies generally contain no provision for a return of

any part of the finance charge or time price differential to the buyer in the event he wishes to prepay the contract. In the event of prepayment the finance company, in those instances where there is a pack or rebate, must, if it has already paid the amount of the pack or rebate to the dealer, collect the amount from the buyer to reimburse itself.

31

In the contracts supplied by finance companies to retail sellers, provision for the collection of interest on overdue [fol. 78] instalments at the highest legal contract rate is frequently made. Some finance companies make charges against and collect from the retail buyer amounts on account of letters sent or acts done by the finance company in connection with the collection of instalments that are delinquent. A delinquency charge is a necessary one.

The report of The Department of Financial Institutions entitled "Indiana Consumer Finance Agencies", did not deal with the subject of delinquencies for the reason that the recommendation of the Division of Research and Statistics was that the amount permitted as a finance charge be a rate per cent per month on the unpaid declining cash balance.

Some finance companies assess the purchaser as a delinquency charge a small fee which is a lump sum provided by its rules of collection known as reinstatement fee. This fee is collected before the account which has become past due is again put in good standing.

In connection with the delinquent charges some companies also have transfer fees which are charged against the person who purchases an automobile from a conditional vendee whose contract has been assigned to the finance company, and which purchaser desires to continue to make the payments according to the provisions of the original conditional vendee's contract. The finance company justifies this charge on the ground that additional bookkeeping is entailed in transferring the account.

The collection of delinquency charges, reinstatement fees and transfer fees is sometimes enforced against the purchaser by means of refusing to deliver to him the certificate [fol. 79] of title issued by the State of Indiana. When the automobile is sold on instalments and by means of the conditional sale agreement, the title to the automobile is re-

tained by the vendor and subsequently assigned to the finance company.

32

During all times herein mentioned some finance companies operating on a without recourse basis have paid a bonus to dealers, even though the dealer has no liability on the contract assigned to the finance company. During the same time G. M. A. C. has continued to set aside the reserve provided in the G. M. A. C. retail plan and has paid the amount thereof to dealers from time to time.

33

G. M. A. C. and other factory affiliated finance companies purchase together more than 60% of all of the instalment contracts arising out of retail automobile instalment sales in the State of Indiana.

34

The purchase of an automobile or other desired merchandise on time is the gratification of the buyer's preference for the present use and enjoyment thereof which is made available to him by the method of instalment purchase, as against deferring present use and enjoyment until he has accumulated sufficient funds to make a cash purchase, and, except for the down payment, as against paying out of accumulated capital, as for example, balances in commercial or savings banks. In order that the retail buyer may [fol. 80] purchase the merchandise on time, his ability to make the necessary down payment and to pay the instalments of the time price must be demonstrated and established to the satisfaction of complainant.

35

There are 843,066 families in the State of Indiana. Out of this number there are 700,000 families whose yearly income is less than $2400 each. There are 400,000 families whose yearly income is less than $1,000 each. The latter class of families constitute the largest class of purchasers of merchandise who use credit provided by means of retail instalment sales and contracts.

36

The net worth of G. M. A. C.'s business is in excess of $50,000. During the calendar year 1934, it purchased retail instalment sale contracts in Indiana aggregating in excess of $7,000,000; and the value of such purchases for the first six months of 1935 is in excess of $4,000,000. During the calendar year 1934, G. M. A. C. purchased in Indiana approximately 23,000 instalment sale contracts from more than 500 dealers.

37

The business of retail sales of automobiles in which the retail seller is engaged, as well as the business of retail sales of other goods having standard prices, is a highly competitive one, in which the amount of the time price [fol. 81] as well as the cash price to retail buyers constitutes a material and important competitive factor. The importance of this factor is emphasized by the interest which the manufacturers of automobiles and other standard articles have in maintaining, for competitive reasons, the retail prices, as well as the cash prices of their products, as low as possible. Other finance companies compete with G. M. A. C. and other factory-owned and factory-affiliated companies, and commercial banks, small loan companies and industrial banks also compete in this field.

38

Chapter 231 of the Acts of the 79th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana became effective on July 1, 1935, and the defendants will in so far as required by said act, in their respective capacities, enforce the act in all of its provisions unless restrained by the court.

[fol. 82] Conclusions of Law

Upon the foregoing facts the court states its conclusions of law as follows:

1. That Chapter 231 of the Acts of the 79th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana is unconstitutional and void in that it deprives complainant of its property without due process of law.

2. That plaintiff is entitled to a judgment perpetually enjoining and restraining the defendants and each of them and their respective agents and employees from in any manner enforcing or threatening to enforce against complainant the provisions of said act.

George T. Page, U. S. Circuit Judge. Patrick T. Stone, U. S. District Judge. Thos. W. Slick, U. S. District Judge.

[fols. 83 & 84] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FINAL DECREE—October 2, 1935

And now upon the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law, it is

Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that defendants and each of them and their assistants, deputies, agents and employees be forever enjoined and restrained from enforcing or attempting to enforce against complainant any of the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana entitled "An Act to license and regulate and to promote competition in the business of purchasing contracts arising out of retail installment sales, to prescribe the form of such contracts, to empower the department of financial institutions to classify retail installment sales and contracts arising therefrom and to fix and prescribe maximum charges for the extension of credit in retail installment sales." being Chapter 231 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana at the 79th Regular Session, and from exacting or attempting to exact from complainant any of the penalties which said Act purports to prescribe for violations thereof, and from instituting any proceedings against complainant to enforce or exact any of such penalties.

[fol. 85] [File endorsement omitted]

IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

[Title omitted]

Petition for Appeal, Assignment of Errors and Prayer for Reversal—Filed Dec. 23, 1935

PETITION FOR APPEAL

Considering themselves aggrieved by the decision of the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana, (Indianapolis Division) in cause number 1686 in equity in said Court, wherein General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Incorporated, is the complainant, and Paul V. McNutt, Governor of the State of Indiana, Philip Lutz, Attorney General of Indiana, Richard A. McKinley, Director of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana, Oscar P. Welborn, Harvey B. [fol. 86] Hartsock, C. M. Setser, Myron Gray and Robert Batton, Members of the Commission of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana and Herbert M. Spencer, Prosecuting Attorney of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Indiana, are defendants, the said defendants therein hereby pray that an appeal be allowed to the Supreme Court of the United States herein, and for an order fixing the amount of the bond thereon.

ASSIGNMENT OF ERRORS

And the said defendants (appellants) assign the following errors in the record and proceedings in said case:

1. The District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) erred in its first conclusion of law in said case in holding and deciding that Chapter 231 of the Acts of the 79th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana is unconstitutional and void in that it deprives complainant of its property without due process of law.

2. The District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) erred in its second conclusion of law in said case in holding and deciding that the complainant is entitled to a judgment perpetu-

ally enjoining and restraining the defendants and each of them and their respective agents and employes from in any manner enforcing or threatening to enforce against the complainant the provisions of Chapter 231 of the Acts of the 79th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

3. The District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) erred in its [fol. 87] decree in granting and issuing the injunction herein.

4. The District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) erred in failing to find as a fact and in disregarding the same in its conclusions of law and decree that the business whose regulation is provided for by Chapter 231 of the Acts of the 79th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana is designed for use by and is used by a considerable portion of the people of the State in the financing of retail instalment purchases; that such business and the methods of transacting the same operate to the detriment of the retail instalment buyer who pays the cost of the supplying of capital by the finance companies to the retail dealers but who, instead of deriving benefit from the competition between finance companies for the retail dealers' business, are placed at a disadvantage by the concealment of "packs" and "bonuses" as a part of the finance charge and by other methods shown by the evidence; and that by reason thereof said business directly affects the public welfare and is subject to regulation under the police power.

Prayer for Reversal

For which errors the defendants (appellants) pray that the said decree of the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) dated October 2, 1935, in the above entitled cause be. [fols. 88-121] reversed and a judgment rendered in favor of the said defendants and for costs.

Philip Lutz, Jr., Attorney General; Joseph W. Hutchinson, Assistant Attorney General; —— ——, Assistant Attorney General; Leo M. Gardner, Counsel for Appellants.

[fol. 122] IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

ORDER ALLOWING APPEAL, FIXING APPEAL BOND, ETC.—
December 23, 1935

The appellants (defendants) in the above entitled suit, and each of them, having prayed for the allowance of an appeal in this cause to the Supreme Court of the United States from the decree made and entered in the above entitled suit by the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) on the 2nd day of October, 1935, and from each and every part thereof, and having presented and filed their petition for appeal, assignment of errors, and prayer for reversal, and having presented a separate typewritten statement particularly disclosing the basis upon which it is contended that the Supreme Court of the United States has jurisdiction upon appeal to review the decree in question, all pursuant to the statutes and the rules of the Supreme Court of the United States in such case made and provided,

It is now here ordered that an appeal be, and the same is hereby, allowed to the Supreme Court of the United States from the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) in this cause, as provided by law, and it is further ordered that the Clerk of the Court appealed from shall prepare and certify a transcript of the record, proceedings, and decree in this cause and transmit the same to the Supreme Court of the United States, so that he shall have the same in said Court within thirty days of this date.

And it is further ordered that security for costs on appeal be fixed in the sum of $1,000.00.

And the defendants file appeal bond in the sum of One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00) with National Surety Corporation as surety thereon, which bond is approved by the Court and is as follows:

[fols. 123-127] Bond on appeal for $1,000.00, omitted in printing.

[fols. 128-134] Citation, in usual form, showing service on Paul Y. Davis et al., filed Dec. 26, 1935, omitted in printing.

[fol. 135] ENTRY FOR DECEMBER 26, 1935

Also lodge condensed statement of evidence.
Also file præcipe for record, which is as follows:

[fol. 136] [File endorsement omitted]

IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

[Title omitted]

PRÆCIPE FOR TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD—Filed Dec. 26, 1935

You are hereby requested to make and transmit to the Supreme Court of the United States under your hand and the seal of the District Court a true copy of the material parts of the record in the above entitled cause, including therein the following:

1. The Bill of Complaint.
2. The Answer.
3. All rulings of the Court and exceptions thereto and all order book entries in said cause.

[fol. 137] 4. The findings of fact and conclusions of law.
5. The final decree.
6. (a) The petition for appeal, assignment of errors and prayer for reversal;
(b) The order of the Court allowing the appeal;
(c) The typewritten statement particularly disclosing the basis upon which it is contended the Supreme Court has jurisdiction;
(d) The statement directing the attention of appellee to the provisions of paragraph 3 of Rule 12 of the Supreme Court;
(e) The proof of service on appellee of the foregoing papers indicated by 6(a) to (d) inclusive.
7. The appeal bond and the approval thereof.
8. The condensed statement of the evidence, and attach to such transcript the original Citation with proof of service thereof, and a copy of this præcipe.

Philip Lutz, Jr., Attorney General; Joseph W. Hutchinson, Assistant Attorney General; Leo M. Gardner, Counsel for Appellants.

[fols. 138 & 139] The undersigned hereby acknowledge service of a copy of the foregoing præcipe this 24th day of December, 1935.

General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Incorporated, by Smith, Remster, Hombrook & Smith, by Paul Y. Davis, Attorneys for Appellee.

[fol. 140] [File endorsement omitted]

IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

[Title omitted]

STIPULATION CONCERNING CONDENSED STATEMENT OF THE EVIDENCE—Filed Jan. 8, 1936

It is stipulated between appellants and appellee (plaintiff and defendants) in the above cause that for the purpose of appellants' appeal from the final decree therein rendered, the special finding of facts made by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana may be treated as supported by the evidence with the exception of the following statements in said findings as to which there is controversy between the parties, namely:

Finding Number 35.

There are 843,066 families in the State of Indiana. Out of this number there are 700,000 families whose yearly income is less than $2400 each. There are 400,000 families whose yearly income is less than $1,000 each. The latter [fol. 141] class of families constitute the largest class of purchasers of merchandise who use credit provided by means of retail instalment sales and contracts.

It is further stipulated that the evidence relevant to the controverted finding above set out was in substance the following:

Edward E. Edwards in affidavits submitted in this Cause, deposed as follows:

I am now an employee in the Division of Research and Statistics of the Department of Financial Institutions of the State of Indiana (hereinafter called the Department) and have been since the said Department came into existence on July 1, 1933. I have recently been appointed supervisor of such division beginning July 1, 1935. I am a grad-

uate of Indiana University, obtaining the degree Bachelor of Science in 1928 and the degree Master of Science in 1934. In addition to the experience and education set out above I have had several years business experience, including three years in the organization of the Comptroller of Manufacture of Western Electric Company, Chicago, Illinois, and one year in the general office of Trustees System Service, Chicago, Illinois, a corporation engaged in the extension of consumer credit.

As a part of my duties in the Division of Research and Statistics of the said Department, I conducted a study of the consumer credit agencies of the State of Indiana, under the supervision of Mr. H. B. Wells. Since the completion of this report I have been further engaged in assisting with the drafting of the Act herein attacked and conferring with [fol. 142] the representatives of the finance business and with dealers and merchants affected by said Act, for the purpose of drafting fair and workable regulations which might be promulgated for the Commission for Financial Institutions.

Installment buying is a device which makes possible the purchase of consumption goods of a market value which prevents their purchase out of current income or accumulated savings. Naturally, installment buying is the means of purchase resorted to by persons or families who have a limited income and from which little savings may be made. According to the 1930 census, there were 843,066 families in Indiana. Based on federal income tax returns and on a house to house study of home ownership in the City of Indianapolis, I estimate that at least 700,000 of these families have an annual income of less than $2400 and that 400,000 of these families have an annual income of less than $1000. Since the average family in Indiana, based on 1930 census figures, contained 4 persons approximately, it is readily apparent that most of the families in the above income groups could not purchase commodities normally sold on the installment plan, including furniture, stoves, electrical appliances, such as washing machines and vacuum cleaners, radios, automobiles and jewelry, out of accumulated savings but are, by necessity, forced to accept installment credit. Clearly, the buyers of the above classes have little bargaining power which may be used to combat the combination of the dealer and finance company in the practices of which he is the victim. The regulation of install-

ment credit by the State offers an intermediate power to [fol. 143] assist the buyer in the purchase of his commodities on a reasonable basis of cost for the credit extension involved and immediately affects the general prosperity of all persons and families who constitute the income classes above set out.

Milan V. Ayres in affidavits submitted in this cause, deposed as follows:

I reside at 5527 University Avenue, Chicago. I hold the office of Secretary and Analyst of the National Association of Sales Finance Companies, a voluntary association organized in 1924 and now having as members 219 sales finance companies located in all parts of the United States, besides seven members in Canada. I have held the position of analyst for the association for nine years, during all of which time my duties have included the gathering and study of statistics and general information relating to instalment selling and the financing of instalment sales.

It is stated by Mr. Edward E. Edwards that according to the 1930 census there were 843,066 families in Indiana, of which Mr. Edwards estimates that at least 700,000, or about 85 per cent. have incomes of less than $2,400 per year and 400,000, or about 47 per cent. have annual incomes of less than $1,000. These figures are used to support the contention that a very large proportion of the population are "by necessity forced to accept instalment credit" and "have little bargaining power", and that therefore the Retail Instalment Sales Act is legislation for the general welfare.

The fallacy in defendants' contention lies in the assumption that instalment buying is typically the recourse of the poor. As a matter of fact instalment purchasing is done [fol. 144] chiefly by fairly prosperous people, and hardly at all by those families having incomes of less than $1,000 annually—which Mr. Edwards characterizes as having "little bargaining power". Incidentally, of the 400,000 families which Mr. Edwards estimates have an annual income of less than $1,000, probably more than one-fourth were on relief (the monthly report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration dated from March 1, 1935 through March 31, 1935 showed that 114,000 families in Indiana were on relief and in addition 22,000 individuals.)

Families having a total annual income of less than $1,000 and of course families on relief, are obliged to spend prac-

tically their entire income for the primary necessities—which are of course food, fuel, clothing and shelter. Food, fuel and shelter are not sold on the instalment plan, and only a very small percentage of clothing is so sold. The best available data indicate that in 1929 only 3.2 per cent. of the retail sales of clothing stores in Indiana were made on the instalment plan and none of the sales of shoe stores. Undoubtedly the great bulk of the instalment clothing sales consisted of the more costly items, such as fur coats, dress suits and the like, which were not purchased by poor families.

The families which purchase instalment goods have been almost exclusively those which have a fairly assured income over and above that requisite for purchasing the primary necessities. The poor have not been the buyers of such goods because they could not be, and because, while often very desirable, such goods are not essential to sustain life [fol. 145] in health and comfort.

The purchasers of instalment goods cannot be deemed to be under any necessity of buying. They can do so or not as they see fit. They need not buy at once, but can wait as long as they choose. They can go from one merchant to another, seeking the best price, or they can borrow in order to buy. The statement that such people have "little bargaining power" or fail to exercise it is contrary to the fact.

Summarizing the above: it is those families having annual incomes over $1,000 (the remaining 53%, using Mr. Edwards' purely estimated figures) which are principally affected by the Retail Instalment Sales Act; these families have no lack of "bargaining power"; the Act does not affect at all the sales of the primary necessities, because such sales are not made on instalments; and it cannot affect to any determinable degree, however slight, the necessitous, the poor, the people of "little bargaining power", because such people seldom buy anything on instalments.

It is further stipulated that the foregoing evidence, together with the special findings of fact made by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, constituted all of the evidence and facts necessary to the consideration of the questions presented by appellants' assignment of errors herein and that this stipulation shall be included in the transcript of the record on appeal from the

final decree in this cause in lieu of the condensed statement of the evidence required by Equity Rule 75.

Philip Lutz, Jr., Attorney General; Joseph W. Hutchinson, Assistant Attorney General; Leo M. Gardner, Solicitors for Appellants. Smith, Remster, Hornbook, Smith, by Paul Y. Davis, Solicitors for Appellee.

[fol. 146] Approved by the court this 7th day of January, 1936, and ordered filed as a part of the record in this cuase.

George T. Page, Judge of United States Circuit Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit; Patrick T. Stone, Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Wisconsin; Thos. W. Slick, Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Indiana, Sitting in said cause in the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) as a special Statutory Three Judge Court.

[fol. 147] Clerk's certificate to foregoing transcript omitted in printing.

[fol. 148] In Supreme Court of the United States

Statement of Points to be Relied Upon and Designation of the Parts of the Record to be Printed—Filed Jan. 21, 1936

The appellants in the above entitled cause say that the points which they intend to rely upon in this court in this case are as follows:

I

The District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) erred in its first [fol. 149] conclusion of law in said case in holding and deciding that Chapter 231 of the Acts of the 79th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana is unconstitutional and void in that it deprives complainant (appellee herein) of its property without due process of law.

1. The findings of fact show that the business regulated by said Act is a proper subject of regulation by the State in the exercise of its police power.

2. The findings of fact fail to show that any of the provisions of said Act are in excess of what is reasonably required for the public welfare.

3. The findings of fact show that the provisions of the Act are reasonably necessary for the public welfare.

4. The Act does not regulate the price of the sale of merchandise. The price regulation features of the Act extend only to the "finance charge" and is a regulation of "credit costs" as distinguished from "price of merchandise".

5. The commission charged with the duty and authority of regulation under said Act is limited by the Act in the fixing of rates, and for any unwarranted action by it of whatever character the Act specifically provides for a resort to the courts.

6. The Act under the evidence and the findings of fact is a legitimate exercise of the police power and is not a deprivation of due process of law or of equal protection of the laws.

7. The public policy involved is peculiarly for the legislature and not for the court.

II

The District Court of the United States for the Southern [fol. 150] District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) erred in its second conclusion of law in said case in holding and deciding that the complainant (appellee herein) is entitled to a judgment perpetually enjoining and restraining the defendants (appellants herein) and each of them and their respective agents and employes from in any manner enforcing or threatening to enforce against the complainant (appellee herein) the provisions of Chapter 231 of the Acts of the 79th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana. The specific points relied upon in support of the foregoing Error No. II are the same as those stated under Error No. I.

III

The District Court of the United States for the Southern District of Indiana (Indianapolis Division) erred in its

decree in granting and issuing the injunction. The specific points relied upon in support of the foregoing error No. III are the same as those stated under Error No. I with the following additional point, namely:

1. The evidence shows that the business of financing retail instalment purchases which is regulated by the Act in controversy affects a considerable portion of the people of the State and that the methods employed and sought to be regulated by the Act operate to the detriment of the retail instalment buyer who pays the cost of the supplying of capital by the finance companies to the retail dealer, but who instead of deriving benefit from competition between finance companies for the retail dealer's business, are placed at a disadvantage by the concealment of "packs" and bonuses as a part of the finance charge and by other methods and that by reason thereof said business directly affects the public welfare and is subject to regulation under the police power.

[fol. 151] IV

The decree of the District Court enjoins the enforcement of the Act as an entirety.

1. This was clearly error. The enforcement of sections 1 to 5 inclusive; sections 21 to 24 inclusive; section 28; a part of section 29; and sections 30 to 35 inclusive would not deprive the appellee of its property without due process of law. The enforcement of the above sections apart from the provisions designed to regulate the cost of credit is clearly intended by the legislature, and the failure, if the court shall so hold, of the sections designed to regulate the cost of credit does not impair the efficacy of the remainder of the Act.

The Parts of the Record to be Printed

Appellants state that the entire record as filed is necessary for the consideration of the case and needs to be printed by the clerk for the hearing of the case.

Philip Lutz, Jr., Attorney General; Joseph W. Hutchinson, Assistant Attorney General, Counsel for Appellants.

[fols. 152 & 153] Proof of Service

The undersigned hereby acknowledges service of the foregoing statement of points to be relied upon and designation of the parts of the record to be printed this 20th day of January, 1936.

Smith, Remster, Hombook, Smith, by Paul Y. Davis,
Counsel for Appellee.

[fol. 154] [File endorsement omitted.]

Endorsed on cover: File No. 40,263. S. Indiana, D. C. U. S. Term No. 709. Paul V. McNutt, Governor of the State of Indiana, et al., appellants, vs. General Motors Acceptance Corporation of Indiana, Inc. Filed January 21, 1936. Term No. 709, O. T., 1935.